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KING OF THE ROAD

**Ted Rogers: the
new media czar**

**His plans for
Maclean Hunter**



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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

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King of the road

36 Ted Rogers, Canada's cable television king, became a media czar by winning control of Maclean's Hunter Ltd. for \$5.1 billion. He says the deal will help him create a nationwide electronic superhighway that will deliver a vast array of new services to Canadian homeowners. But his critics say that he would own too many media outlets.



Photo: John H. Johnson

The battle for Quebec

12 Premier Daniel Johnson has helped draw the battle lines for a Quebec election that could be called as soon as May—and the choice is starker than it has been in many years: separation or staying within Confederation.



Photo: J. G. Gauthier

Backpack

A monthly report on personal health, life and leisure

50 On the health scene, improved—but controversial—techniques help doctors spot prostate cancer. Ski slopes are making room for a fresh counterculture sport, snowboarding. And the spring calendar offers events from maple syrup festivals to whale watching. There are also tips for another spring ritual: filing tax returns.



Photo: J. G. Gauthier

Ted Rogers is in the building

There has been conflict of interest written all over it. Reader beware: Several years ago, an eyebrow or two were raised about a request for the installation of cable television in the offices of senior editors at Maclean's in downtown Toronto. The controversy arose from above, was mostly because venerable Maclean's writer who has been on cable television, was a host to share the signals of the apparatus to enter the premises. Now, Ted Rogers is in the building—a few years after the introduction of his cable system. It was a wise investment, that installation of Rogers cable service, and at the time, it was not that long when, three or four days, senior editors at Maclean's tuned in to live programs on Rogers' Channel 18 to watch Edward S. (Ted) Rogers detail the manner in which he will come to own the company that once was known about reporting the signals into the building.

After a brief discussion about how it might be misinterpreted, Maclean's editors agreed that Rogers' takeover at Maclean's, one of the top business stories of the decade, should be the cover story of this week's Maclean's. Now, doing a whole cover story on your potential new boss is only. Even Rogers would be shared the concern in a lengthy interview with Maclean's National Correspondent David Dalgleish. "I know you're not supposed to influence the editorial," he said, "but I'd much prefer it not to be a cover. People will say the obvious that I bought it to get on the cover."

At \$1.1 billion, that certainly would have been the most outrageous attempt to sway what is always an exclusive decision of the Editor and the journalistic staff of Maclean's to the 16-year tradition of Maclean's as a nonpartisan, law week the news simply was informed of the cover decision after work on the project had been launched.

The business-as-usual approach was at the center, given the affirmations by all the parties involved that there will be no change in the structure or operations of Maclean's pending regulatory decisions which are not expected until some time in 1995. Even then, the Maclean's family is bullish about the opportunities, whatever the outcome of corporate decisions about assets. Given the kind of readership of 2.2 million, 80 years of tradition and a growing readership with other media, we know that Ted Rogers is poised to acquire a real jewel in the Maclean's media crown, if the deal goes through.



Rogers (left), Dalgleish: writing about your boss is risky

We have tried to keep such of stimulating out of the cover report. That is exclusively the work of the business section overseen by Senior Editor Dennis McWhirly. Jay errors or omissions are strictly the responsibility of the editorial department. It is one case where the boss can shoot the messenger.

As part of an ongoing series of changes in the magazine is reprinted this week a new monthly feature appears in Maclean's pages, called Backpack. In the manner of its namesake, Backpack aims to be a visible extension of the center—in this case things that are informative, analytical or plain fun added to the regular weekly coverage of news and issues. Backpack will focus on personal health, life and leisure. It will range over subjects from medical problems to adventure travel, from family issues to upcoming movies and books. Like users of the real thing, Backpack tries to appeal to people on the move, with mountains to climb and dreams to chase.

Robert Louis

Maclean's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

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OPENING NOTES

Eastern reflections

While governments in Canada and a host of other countries are cutting spending or raising taxes, Hong Kong is doing the reverse. The booming Crown colony's 1994 budget, released earlier this month, allocated funds by \$202 million. "In a year of budgetary restraint, the government should take this opportunity to leave money where it can do the most good—in the pockets of taxpayers," said Financial Secretary Ian Liew MacLeod. By treasury Western standards the results are staggering. In fact, all 13 million Hong Kong residents—ranging from singles who make less than \$76,000 to families earning less than \$150,000—will pay no income tax at all. De-



Drink up, please, it's time

Something called the Path International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm has no right to be attending. But at that gathering of 265 health and addiction researchers last week in Toronto, Edinburgh-based Dr. Martin Plant, one of the world's leading researchers who advocate reduced social, work or financial constraints, drinking can be good for you. Plant said several studies are indicating that alcoholism is less dangerous than moderate drinking. There he called for a re-evaluation of abstinence drinking laws—suggesting that up to 26 drinks a week could still be healthy. (By contrast, Canada's Addictive Disorders Foundation, a co-sponsor of the conference, recommends a two-drink-per-day maximum.) Excerpted from Plant's speech.

"One great asset of my professional career was that alcohol problems and the adverse effects of heavy or inappropriate drinking. Just as

a re-evaluation of evidence—in fact a whole 18-million evidence—shows that heavy drinkers, the young, these and has been building up for 20 years or more now another body of evidence that suggests that abstinence for pretty young too.

The uniform finding of all of these measures is that abstinence and lower drinking, defined variously, have higher rates of premature mortality than people who drink moderate to intermediate amounts. ... The heart of suggested that such evidence should be taken away, that it should be ignored, that it should be discredited—I don't think alcohol epidemiology is science. ... It's been suggested that if the general public were to, God forbid, find out about this evidence, that this would lead to an epidemic of rape and abuse. ... [that] alcohol and alcohol-related problems are complicated. ... We need to examine the whole picture—including the benefits and the harm associated with alcohol consumption."

WORD
FOR
WORD

BEST-SELLERS

FICITION

1. *Like Water for Chocolate*, Laura Esquivel (D)
2. *The Stone Starline*, Carol Shields (D)
3. *The Bridge of Madison County*, Robert Bly (D)
4. *The Blue Afternoon*, William Boyd (D)
5. *The Melissa Series*, A. J. East (T)
6. *Like Water for Chocolate*, Laura Esquivel (D)
7. *Shakespeare*, Michael Chabon (D)
8. *Wynona*, Simon Schama (D)
9. *Pretty Girls on the Run*, Emily St. John (D)
10. *The Penelope*, Melissa (D)

(D) Fiction best seller

NONFICTION

1. *Endangered by the Light*, Eric Sule (D)
2. *Women Who Run with the Wolves*, Clarissa Pinkus (D)
3. *Agnes Grey*, Jane Austen (D)
4. *John's Story*, John (D)
5. *The Innocent Truth*, Tim (D)
6. *Searching for Sense*, Susan (D)
7. *Understanding the Problem*, Tim (D)
8. *Blind and Enduring*, Robert (D)
9. *Memoirs*, John (D)
10. *Five with My*, Home (D)

Compiled by Robin Eichen



Michael Treadwell (below): something

On Conrad's blacklist

Newspaper editors usually have the job of writing to their staff, but Conrad Black is a splash exception. Read on as Michael Treadwell and Sunday Triograph have become accus-



toed to reading occasional contributions from the papers' Canadian program on subjects done in his last—everything from politics to the length of women's skirts. Black's last journalistic writing, in the March 4 Triograph, is a scathing review of Prime Minister's recent ministerial duties. Michael Black refers to Trudeau as a man who once led "a socialist imperialist country," and reads the former prime minister for squandering millions of dollars on such misguided socialist projects as the National Energy Program, while opposing common sense. Lamenting the dissolution of the U.S.S.R., with which he was generally in greater sympathy than with the United States," wrote Black. "Conrad will therefore be pleased to be, he did not let his finger to preserve the 210-year-old status of English as an official language in Quebec." Freedom of Black's own autobiography, *A Life in Progress*, which appeared last

All within weeks of Treadwell's book, may raise an eyebrow at the media house's final judgment on Michael. "This should have been a good book," said Treadwell, "but it was a waste of time to waste your and Michael's." A case, perhaps, of the pot calling the kettle black.

Continued on page 2

PASSAGES

DIED: Melina Mercouri, 56, an fiery screen and politician who became a leading minister in Greece's socialist government, has been cut in a New York City hospital. More than 200,000 people in Athens lined her funeral procession, which effectively shut down the city. Mercouri became an international celebrity in 1960 for her Oscar-nominated role as the war-torn Greek prostitute in *Never on Sunday*. She served her last year in a cabinet as an interior minister campaign against the Black Sea, which ended Greece's ties with the Soviet Union in 1991. She died in 1993.

POSSIBLED: A scheduled hearing by the U.S. Figure Skating Association into the alleged involvement of Tony Harding, 23, in the Jan. 6 attack on Nancy Kerrigan, 26, by a skater-jumper in Portland, Ore. The indefinite postponement means Harding will likely compete in the March 28-29 World Figure Skating Championships in China, Japan. The judge ruled that the skating association had failed to provide Harding sufficient time to mount a proper defense in her home town. Harding's allegations that she was part of the plot to harm Kerrigan, whose knee injury after a hard strike with a metal bar prevented her from competing in the U.S. national championship, ultimately won by Harding. At last month's Winter Olympics, Harding finished eighth while Kerrigan—who says she will not compete in Japan because of indignation—won the silver medal.

DIED: Cult writer Charles Bukowski, 73, whose poems and prose reflected his heavy-drinking and hard-living approach to life, of leukemia, in San Pedro, Calif., hospital.

INVADED: Supermodel Claudia Schiffer, 33, and model David Copperfield, 37, who met last October when he picked her up at the audience during one of his shows in Berlin.

DIED: Spanish actor Fernando Rey, 78, who starred in the film of Luis Buñuel and as a doctor in the film of Luis Buñuel *The French Connection*, of bladder cancer, in Madrid.

Mong Kong shows a smuggling problem

Despite the cuts, the finance department forecasts that it will have \$47 billion in reserves by 1997, when British hands over the colony to China.

Still, Hong Kong has at least one thing in common with Canada. In recent years, the government has doubled tobacco taxes—giving rise to a burgeoning black market in cigarettes, smuggled out of the champagne county of Taiwan. Canada may have the last cough after all.

POP MOVIES

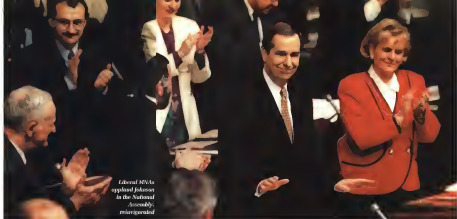
Top movies in Canada, ranked according to box-office receipts during the seven days that ended on March 31 (in brackets: number of screens/weeks showing)

1. *Armageddon* (D)
2. *Seinfeld* (D)
3. *Greedy* (D)
4. *The Chase* (D)
5. *Mr. Doubtful* (D)
6. *On Deadly Ground* (D)
7. *In the Name of the Father* (D)
8. *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* (D)
9. *Black Sheep* (D)
10. *Philadelphia* (D)

COMPILATION BY PETER J. BAYNE



THE BATTLE FOR QUEBEC



Liberal MP's opposition leader Jean Charest, smiling, greets the Liberal Assembly, reorganized

As a harbinger of what lies ahead, the challenge was telling. It occurred last week when the opposition blue walls at Quebec's National Assembly, not long after Daniel Johnson finally retired into the premier's chair since accused by both his father and his brother, began to join the first session of the provincial legislature's first sitting since Johnson assumed the premiership last January, opposition leader Jacques Parizeau quickly mounted an attack. Noting acutely that Johnson's latest allies in Ottawa were about to close Quebec's only military academy, the Collège militaire royal de St-Jovite, the Parti Québécois chief invited the premier to put his in a public search posturing the move. "Would he like to take a few steps with us to show his sincerity?" Parizeau scoldingly repeated. Johnson's reply was prompt—and barbed. "I'll understand the leader of the opposition correctly," the premier shot back, "he wants to maintain a military school in Quebec for no other purpose but that of creating his own army."

If there were any lingering doubts about the dramatic nature of the coming electoral war in Quebec, they were rapidly dispelled by that first face-to-face encounter between the two key protagonists. As both Johnson and Parizeau clearly indicated by their performances in the legislature last week, the acid election—which must be held by November, but which could be called as soon as early

May—as daring to be like few others in Quebec's recent history, in place of the traditional antagonisms and divided loyalties that have characterized Quebec elections for much of the past quarter century, voters will face a stark choice this time around. Gone is the mainly middle ground of sovereignty association promoted by Parizeau's predecessors, René Lévesque, and the drive for a renewed form of independence spearheaded by former Liberal premier Robert Bourassa, behind whom they are finally summoned to the polls, voters will be asked to choose clearly between an independent Quebec, as advocated by Parizeau's PQ, and continued membership in the existing Canadian confederation, as reflected by Johnson's Liberals.

"The lines are being clearly drawn," says François Lévesque, a former Liberal cabinet minister and current party strategist. "It's going to be an extremely different ball game from anything we have witnessed around here for quite some time." Ranking Progressives are more circumspect, preferring to echo the party's publicly declared electoral strategy of outflanking the Liberals first while leaving the question of independence to a subsequent province-wide referendum, which Parizeau says could be held two months after a victory by his party. In private, however, at least a few PQ strategists concede that there is more at stake in the upcoming election than the prime minister's office of a lifetime adminis-

tration, first after more than 10 years in power, much of it during a severe economic crisis. "There are some of us who might not want to broadcast it," admits one PQ planner, "but the issue is separation, pure and simple."

The Progressives' newfound willingness to deny any self-defined issues like separation, secession and independence is, in itself, a reflection of the new political realities in Quebec. It was Blue-Quebecers' leader Lucien Bouchard who set the pace when he frankly admitted himself a "secessionist" rather than the more ambiguous "sovereignist," during his visit to Washington in early March. Only days later, Parizeau used the same word to describe his own political position, something he has rarely done at the past. In the process, the two leaders not only rehabilitated a term once that has been close to extinction in Quebec, separatist circles for the past 20 years, they also undermined the polarization of the entire debate over the province's future.

For like the Progressives under Parizeau, Johnson's Liberals have also been shedding the electoral stance the party adopted under Bourassa. Unlike Bourassa, who elevated separatism to a political end state, Johnson is saying (at least), even blurt "I'm a secessionist," even blurt "I'm a secessionist." "I like to get things done." Despite six years of faithful service in Bourassa's cabinet, Johnson does not appear to share the former premier's qualms about Canada's consti-

As the mushy middle ground slips away, voters must choose between separation and the status quo

tutional status quo. Nor is he hesitant to defend the federal system—much at the risk of alienating nationalist sympathizers among fellow Liberals. And in the three months that he has been leading Quebec's Liberals, he has been steadily engaged in reuniting the party in his own image.

To a significant extent, Johnson has succeeded. Few nationalist voters are left to either his cabinet or his caucus. Even Bourassa, who dominated the Quebec political scene for close to two decades, has largely disappeared from view since he stepped down as party leader last December. On the weekend the Liberals signed an election treaty for the former premier during a party policy convention in Montreal (but during the rest of the two-day meeting, it was Johnson's influence that clearly emerged triumphant).

Jacques Lacombe, a 61-year-old Montreal lawyer with impeccable liberalist credentials, was acclaimed to the party's new president. And in stark contrast to previous Liberal con-

ventions, resolutions prepared for debate by the 2,800 delegates contained no demands for greater political autonomy for Quebec, no calls for exclusive Quebec jurisdiction in numerous policy fields and no condemnations of the inefficiency and costliness of the existing federal system. Most of the resolutions, in fact, reflected Johnson's overriding concern by focusing on pragmatic, if unspectacular, ways to adjust the state and bills of government.

In a clear measure of the changed atmosphere, one Liberal riding association even went so far as to recommend the ultimate banishment of Johnson's entire record of Quebec as a "barrier to unity" within Canada. By stressing vigorous action rather than state theory, the Liberal coalition was specifically intended to reassure the conservatives that the party has returned under Johnson's lead. Almost from the moment he took office on Jan. 11, the new premier has attempted to portray himself as an activist leader. In just over two months, he has, with a

single boost from Prime Minister Jean Charest, slashed cigarette taxes, virtually embargoed tobacco that was most widespread in Quebec. He scrapped a controversial proposal to move the venerable Hôtel Dieu hospital from downtown Montreal to the city's eastern suburbs. In the face of resistance from Hydro-Quebec, he gave the gas shield for a local delayed \$1.2 billion power project on the St. Lawrence River in the economically depressed lower north shore of the St. Lawrence. And late last week, Johnson unveiled another new program designed to create 2,700 jobs through construction of a \$400 million hydroelectric power line.

Recent opinion polls indicate that Johnson's moves are beginning to strike a responsive chord among Quebec voters. A survey in late February carried out by the Centre de recherches sur l'opinion publique (CROP), a leading Montreal polling company, placed the Liberals' majority ahead at the PQ for the first time since last June. CROP's pollsters gave the Liberals 45 per cent of desired votes, compared with 43 per cent for the PQ—a result he gave the survey's three-percent margin of error. Similarly, a poll conducted by a Quebec City company only in March also found the Liberals and the Progressives running neck and neck. That survey done by the Watt firm of politicians, gave the Liberals 44 per cent against the PQ's 46 per cent. "The wind

THE NATION'S NEWS FIRST



TONY PARSONS
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CANADA

is shifting," says CROP vice-president Chede. Still, the new polls indicate a potentially solid Liberal win.

Persistent or not, the polls reintegrated Liberal hopes. Centering on the heels of an upset Liberal victory a week earlier in the Quebec House of Assembly, Chede refuted speculation that Johnson may yet decide to call an election this spring. Technically, the premier can wait until as late as Oct. 12 to call a vote that would take place on Nov. 18. Before the Sheffield by-election and the release of the reconstruction poll results, it was widely anticipated that Johnson would delay longer: the voters as long as possible. But these initial calculations may no longer apply. "We grow concerned that an election in as far way much sooner than we think," says PQ house leader Guy Chevrette.

Johnson's Liberals certainly display all the signs of moving rapidly into election mode. After last weekend's convention, the party planned to accelerate plans for nomination meetings in the roughly 60 ridings where its division results to be selected. This week, Johnson is scheduled to fly out his government's plans in the inaugural address opening a new session of the National Assembly in late April. Finance Minister Andre Boivin is to introduce a pre-budget law. He has promised to introduce no new taxes—and

even dropped hints about selective tax cuts. Still, the new polls indicate a potentially solid Liberal win. For while the Liberals may be racing even with the PQ in province-wide support, the fact remains that much of the Liberal vote is concentrated in largely anglophone ridings in and around Montreal. In mainly French-speaking constituencies, the Liberals continue to trail the PQ by a large margin. The CROP poll found Liberal strength running 16 points behind the PQ where francophones are concentrated, while SON's pollsters reported a 20-point margin. That means that many Liberal voters in anglophone areas are in effect wasted; most pollsters say the Liberals must be at least seven percentage points ahead of the PQ to win a majority of the 135 seats in the assembly. The Liberals can run an massive campaign among the anglophones but they will still be able to win handsily with just the less



Parsons: a born-again 'populocrat'

But any strategy by the federal Liberals to help their provincial "cousins"—as they call them in Quebec—lacks problems. For since the federal Liberals lost the financial and organizational resources they had in the early 1980s, when they held 74 of Quebec's 73 seats. Now, the Liberals hold only 13 seats in Quebec and will have only skeleton organizations to match of the province. For another, the federal treasury is at rock-bottom, and so is the patience level of Canadians towards political posturing. "That means there are unlikely to be the kind of heavy-handed programs that were 'historically' associated by Ottawa before the May, 1980, referendum on sovereignty-association. (In one starkness period since, Ottawa spent an estimated \$8 million on TV ads extolling the virtues of various federal departments.) One example cited by Liberals as proof that they will not repeat that strategy is the decision to close College militaire royal in St-Jovite, Que.,

roughly mid," contends Westmont PQ MSA Richard Harkin, the party's sole anglophone representative in the legislature.

The PQ may have an edge in the fast-approaching election contest, but polls show they still face an uphill battle in any eventual new referendum on sovereignty. Recent support for independence peaked at 50 per cent in mid-1990, since then, it has declined and now stands at 46 per cent of decided voters. And even to the extent. Proponents have their own liabilities. The most dangerous may well be the party's newly discovered penchant for labeling itself overtly separatist, as another poll revealed last week. In a survey carried out by George Lopez & Lopez for the Toronto Globe and Mail 50.7 per cent of Quebecers said that they do, in fact, feel there is a difference between sovereignty and separation. "As people usually think of concepts of sovereignty in a generic way, it implies maintaining a relationship with the rest of Canada," says Jean Mass, Lopez, president of Lopez & Lopez. "The poll also suggests that the word 'separatist' is a very negative word to Quebec." It suggests breaking all links with the rest of Canada. "It is not true, there is no such thing as a separatist, it has been constructed a grave misstatement when they chose to abandon the semantic dual that and merely, served their cause so well.

LIBRARY CARE in Montreal

which has caused a fire storm in the Quebec media. And, although Chretien's popularity in Quebec has increased sharply since the election, allies say he is unlikely to increase diversity in the provincial campaign.

Still, Chretien's inner circle—which is largely made up of Quebecers—has a shortage of ideas and networks in the province. Jean Falardeau, Chretien's old friend and chief of staff, speaks an average once a week with his counterpart, Pierre Asselin, an attorney. Daniel Johnson's staff, Pierre and Murray Moser, André Ouellet, whose organizing skills are legendary, has been preoccupied with his portfolio. But, says Falardeau, not significantly. "It is not finding new live wires for democratic matters"—and will play the pivotal role in coordinating federal strategy in the province. Other key figures include senior adviser Eldon Goldberger, Chretien's longtime friend John Rios, a senior executive with Montreal-based Power Corp., and Montreal lawyer Eric Michol.

Some Liberals say they have held no meetings yet to specifically discuss the Quebec election. That will change soon, although the watchword for any such involvement, says one adviser, will be "subtlety." Says the Liberal, "Even if we had a strategy, would it really be our aim to acknowledge that political? For now, to be as solid as possible, the Liberals prefer to speak softly rather than to carry a big stick.

ANTHONY WILSON-SMITH in Ottawa

THE 1994 STUDENT WRITING AWARDS

sponsored by the Canadian Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts and co-sponsored by Canadian Parks Partnership

Open to students registered full- or part-time in a secondary school program

FIRST PRIZE: \$600
SECOND PRIZE: \$250
THIRD PRIZE: \$150

Write a 1,000-word paper on one of the following subjects:

- 1) "Mr. Chretien, these are your priorities"
— an address to the Prime Minister
- 2) "We don't just hang out at the mall"
— a defense of teenagers everywhere
- 3) "Canada's Parks and Historic Sites"
— the importance of preserving environmental and cultural heritage for generations to come

*For this subject, students may wish to contact the "Schools" groups at the national park or historic site nearest to their respective province. The Canadian Parks Partnership: 4966, 1416-1st Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2R 1J1, (403) 244-6067, will put students in touch with their chosen "friends" group.

Mail your submissions to: Maclean's In-Class Program Student Writing Awards, 777 Bay Street, 10th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1A7.



Contest Rules

- Entries must be submitted on or before June 1, 1994. Submissions must be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the paper, and must be clearly marked with the student's name and school. Handwritten entries and those illegibly typed will not be judged. A covering sheet may be stapled to the front of each entry, listing the student's name, address, telephone number, age and grade, as well as the school name and address, telephone number, and teacher's name.
- Entries are restricted to one submission per student. All entries must be the original and unpublished writing of the student, and may not be related to another student's work. Entries must be submitted separately to the 1994 Maclean's In-Class Program Student Writing Awards. All entries become the property of Maclean's Inc. Canada Press.
- Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged only if a stamped self-addressed envelope is included with the entry. Please keep a copy of your submission. Manuscripts will not be returned.
- Judges will not take place during the summer. The judging panel consists of Maclean's editor Helen Lewis, a Maclean's In-Class Program representative and the president of the Canadian Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts.
- Only winners will be notified, by mail in September, 1994. The judging committee reserves the right not to award any of the prizes if the quality of the submissions is deemed inadequate.

Employees, their family members, agents of Maclean's/Huron Leonard's Editorial and Division, and family members of the CCTC's executive board are not eligible.

If you would like to be an age reader, list to receive notifications of future contests, more information about the In-Class Program, or a copy of last year's winning essay, call our toll-free number at 1-800-856-1955, Mon-Fri 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST. Use 1-800-856-1955.

A change of heart

Under the Liberals, foreign policy will stress economics over human rights

A violet brings coffee in China cups and juice in tumbler of our glass. A car now at Sussex Drive and the overfrighted banks of the Fraser. The British high commissioner. The elegant offices of Canada's minister of foreign affairs now lightyears from the working class streets of Pajapenta/Sk. Michel, in Montreal's east end, that André Gauthier has represented in Parliament since 1987. And Gauthier, the passionate veteran of backroom Quebec patronage and politics, briefly when asked how he has adjusted in the more general world of diplomacy: "Maybe you have a bad impression of me," he says, covering evident irritation with a laugh. "I think I could be quite a good diplomat."

But while Gauthier, 54, takes pride in his post as Canada's chief representative to the world, he has not forsaken his political roots in one of Canada's poorest ridings. So when he says that Canada's foreign policy is in for a make-over, with more emphasis on economic concerns, Gauthier is defying the tenets of Canadian diplomacy in terms that his constituents would probably understand. "The key priority of this government is to create jobs," Gauthier told *Maclean's* in a recent interview. From conversations with Gauthier and other Liberal policymakers, it appears that Canada under the Liberals will be less outspoken about human rights, less inquisitive about foreign aid, less ready to stir up her peacekeeping efforts, and less aggressive in pursuing Canadian interests. "Our intentions," Gauthier explains, "are to promote trade, to promote sales of Canadian goods and services."

Gauthier and International Trade Minister Roy MacLaren ditched not some of the government's plans but work in separate appearances before the Commonsense Ideas committee that sparked the start of a year-long review of how Canada interacts with the rest of the world. MacLaren stressed that trade policy and foreign policy are the same thing: "I make no distinction," he told the committee. By early next year, the government will spell out where it believes foreign



policy should be headed. The House of Commons is to debate the issue this week, and the following week Gauthier will bring together 130 foreign policy experts at a two-day public forum in Ottawa. But it is clear that Gauthier and MacLaren already have a pretty good idea of where they want to go—and it is a direction that contrasts sharply with the traditions of Canadian foreign policy set by a small circle of diplomats and bureaucrats, led by Liberal ex-Prime Minister Pearson, in the aftermath of the Second World War.

That was a time when Canada defined its global interests generously. When Canadians looked down at their reflection in the eyes of the world, it was easy to like what they saw: a smallish country with a big heart, a loyal member of the West—albeit—but with the courage to cleave at times with its friends and to search out the middle path of compromise. But the end of the Cold War shattered that cozy self-image. "We've lost our compass because the world has changed," says Kevin Kruse, senior director at the Centre for International and Strategic Studies at Toronto's York University.

It was not only the world that changed. So, too, did Canadians, their humanitarian instincts blunted by selfishness and recession. Philosopher Michael Adkins, president of Emancipate Research in Toronto, says Canadians are no longer stirred by noble motives but by a cold realization of Canadian interests. "Having good motives, or humanitarian motives, is not enough," says Adkins, describing the public mind.

To Art Drake, a senior member of the Canada-China Economic Council, some of the changes were apparent even during the first days of the Liberal government last November. A week after being sworn in as



Gauthier: 'We have to be more selective'

Conservative-proposed fishing project on El Salvador; between child draws water near Cuba project (left); pollsters say that Canadians are no longer stirred by noble motives



minister, MacLaren flew to Vancouver to speak to the council's annual meeting, then returned to Ottawa to welcome Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Wu Yi. Drake, who was Canada's ambassador to China at the time of the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989 and is now retired, says the two events were a welcome sign that Canada is finally putting Tiananmen aside and emphasizing closer relations with the People's Republic. "We're back at the loop," says Drake.

Seagoing men with China and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region are a key element of the Liberal's plan to redesign foreign policy. Gauthier maintains that far too late after the Tiananmen massacre, Canada continued to publicly lecture Chinese officials about abuses of human rights. "Other countries have been much quicker to forget Tiananmen Square and come back and re-establish dialogue, friendly, cordial relations," he says. Right-of-speech criticism, Gauthier adds, is a fringe of the past. In fact, following MacLaren's meeting with Wu, there was no public working over human rights—and talk about trade. Gauthier says he shares the view of business leaders like Felix Li, executive director of the Canada-China Council, that Canada has no economic interests by refusing to trade the case on Tiananmen. "We have," Li contends, "been losing out in the past few years because we have been too vocal."

No one can point to a particular sale or project that was lost because of Canada's stand on human rights. But business leaders contend that trade opportunities, and the jobs that go with them, have slipped away. While Canadian exports to China have been increasing over the past several years, Statistics Canada figures show that Canada has actually been falling behind as competitors in surging economic growth in China resulted in a flood of imports. China's exports to China climbed by a seemingly impressive 35 per cent from 1990 to 1993. During the same period, however, the Japanese pushed up their exports to China by 40 per cent, the Germans 50 per cent and the Americans 47 per cent.

Government officials say they realize that to recapture markets where Canada must do more than just stay behind Chinese leaders, in particular, Canadian companies must be more aggressive in China's competitive new business environment. One early success came with the appointment of Vancouver MP Raymond Chan, who was born in Hong Kong, to the new post of ambassador for the Asia-Pacific region. Charles Shiu, vice-president of the Asia-Pacific strategy at Northern Telecom, says Chan's appointment was a welcome signal that the Liberals will pay more attention to China, a business-rights activist before his election in October, has no problem with the government's unabashed emphasis on promoting trade. "I am a salesman for Canada," he says proudly.

Gauthier insists that Canada will not be silent about rights abuses. Rather, he says, it will look for ways to make its points "without embarrassing citizens of other countries." And he believes that public indignation rarely has the intended effect, that quieter diplomacy is often more effective. That stance contrasts with the position the Liberals took in opposition. After Tiananmen, the Liberals criticized the Conservative government for allowing warships could continue to get in the way of Canada's concerns for human rights. They demanded tougher action beyond the measures the Tories had taken: cutting trade promotion programs, closing aid projects and halting trade contacts with Chinese officials.

If Canada under the Liberals is going to be less vocal about human rights, the signs are that it will also be somewhat less generous on both foreign aid and peacekeeping. "We have had probably the luxury to be everywhere," Gauthier says. "The financial reality at the moment is that we probably have to be more selective." In other words, the government broke new ground last month just by raising the question of whether Canada would continue to participate in the United Nations mission in Bosnia when its current commitment there expires. And while the government said last week that the mission would be extended for another six months, Gauthier said he would like Canadian participation for granted. "We want to give a clear indication that we are not short-termist," he said. Ottawa's total budget for peacekeeping, including both an assessment from the United Nations and direct costs incurred by the defence department, will drop in the 1994-1995 fiscal year to \$338 million from \$417.2 million the previous year.

In foreign aid, too, the Liberals are trimming costs. The government's 22 billion cut and spending over the next two fiscal years and from spending after that until 1999-2000. The reduction, to \$3.6 billion from \$5.7 billion, follows substantial cuts by the former Conservative government. About 80 per cent of Canadian aid is channeled through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and even before the budget, Gauthier made it clear that the agency would have to get by with less. But what CIDA may be overlooking, Gauthier predicts, is that the Liberals will not make the kind of deep-dive cuts demanded by the Reform party. "You and large," says the minister, "Canadians expect that their government is going to continue to give a very large sum of money to assist the poorer of the world."

There is little doubt, however, that the Liberals are going to be more vocal about human rights. Gauthier says that while Canada's "Canada has been a good, steady to serve as a guide," Gauthier says. Those days appear to be over—and the minister is bracing that the people of Pajapenta/Sk. Michel will approve.

WARREN CARAGATA with LUCY FISHER in Ottawa

A new deal for aboriginals?

Confusion with even a passing interest in native issues might have been left given a sense of déjà vu last week as federal Indian Affairs Minister Ronald Lewis predicted the eventual demise of the department that he runs. Lewis made his statement in response to a question from Manitoba Liberal MP Elijah Harper about federal plans to give native leaders in Manitoba full control over programs for the province's 34,000 Indians. "It will be the last province to dismantle Indian Affairs," declared Lewis. "Hopefully, it will be a model for the rest of the country." A number of Lewis' predecessors, including a young Quebecer named Jean Chrétien, who served in the post from 1986 until 1994, have similarly promised to turn towards the elimination of a department that they now see as paternalistic and outdated. Yet the department, which also handles northern affairs, is very much alive, with a tripled office tower on the Ottawa River, a fiscal 1994-1995 budget of \$5 billion and a full-time staff of about 2,400. But this time, Lewis insists, the talk is for real. "It is time," he said. "It is now."



Native child in Island Lake, Man., paving the way for self-government

A transfer of power to Manitoba natives may serve as a model for dismantling Indian Affairs

During the Meech Lake constitutional accord while a member of the Manitoba legislature, Lewis' desire to repeal the Indian Act and give natives the tools to govern themselves represents, so far at least, more a statement of good intentions than a blueprint for change. Federal officials and native leaders alike stress that the talks aimed at

McKenney's in the Commons, meanwhile, before MP Charles Strahl tried to get Lewis to be more precise and define self-government. "That," Lewis replied, "is a difficult question," suggesting that the definition will be settled, in part, through the negotiations in Manitoba. For him, he said, self-government is a moving target. "If there are tribal councils that are ready to move on certain parts, like education, let's go with them. If they're ready to go with an aboriginal court system within six months, I say great." The experiments will not be confined to Manitoba, and Lewis has said that there can be no single model for devolving authority from the federal bureaucracy to native people.

Aboriginal leaders, in general, said they were pleased by the minister's initiatives. Paul Fournier, grand chief of the Association of Manitoba Chiefs, said Manitoba Indians are well-placed to act as the model for the rest of the country, with about 40 per cent of the population groups affecting as many as 100,000 people. "We have an already administered by law as bands. But Fournier, who has close ties to the Liberals and Harper, is not interested in merely gaining control of the rest. "We're talking about a major shift in jurisdiction to First Nations," he said. McKenney's "We want to design the education program [and other programs], we want to sit at the table with the other levels of government."

Even some native leaders, though, acknowledge that self-government is not a universally popular concept among their own people. In fact, when Chrétien suggested dismantling the Indian Affairs department more than 30 years ago, the idea was shelved because of opposition from Indians who feared assimilation. This has around asserts true, native bands that do not feel ready for self-government will not be pushed. "If they're not ready to take on self-government," he said, "I think we have a responsibility to stay with them." It may be many years before the final obituary for the Department of Indian Affairs can be written.

WARRICK CALABRESE and E. JANE FLETCHER
in Ottawa

NO PAY RAISE FOR MPs

Federal Treasury Board president Art Eggen said that MPs' salaries will be frozen at current levels until at least 1997, despite the recommendation of an independent report on MPs' pay and privileges. It said MPs deserve a 30-per-cent pay raise, to \$88,500 per year. Eggen said the government will ask on another recommendation that would restrict lawmakers from collecting a full pension until they are 60, rather than being able to collect after only six years in office, as they do now.

HARDENING ATTITUDES

A new opinion poll conducted by Ottawa-based Bay Research indicated that 69 per cent of Canadians believe that Canada is allowing in too many immigrants, compared with the 44 per cent who said that view is a similar poll two years ago. Four in 10 of those surveyed said that too many members of visible minorities—particularly Arabs, blacks and Asians—are being allowed into Canada.

A TRAGIC LOSS

Doctors at Regina's Plaine Health Centre were forced to amputate two-year-old Karine Kosobol's lower left leg because of severe frostbite, despite a massive medical operation that costed the girl after she nearly froze to death and her best friend stopped talking. Kosobol, who may have spent more than five hours trapped outside her parents' home in Rosedale, Sask., in -22°C temperatures on Jan. 25, said with courage extensive tests gave her no further chance of her legs.

JUSTICE DELAYED

Justice Howard Kneier, who is presiding over a federal inquiry into why more than 1,000 Canadians contracted HIV from tainted blood products in the 1980s, accused provincial governments for delaying his deliberations by failing to produce relevant documents. "This is entirely unacceptable," declared Kneier.

DEFENDING THE EAGLE

Lewys for Alan Eagleson—who has been indicted in Boston on 30 counts of molestation, fraud, embezzlement and obstruction of justice for his actions as head of the National Hockey League Players' Association between 1987 and 1991—questioned whether an American court had jurisdiction over the Toronto-based club, who denies any wrongdoing. "We're challenging the jurisdiction as 'highly' as the lawyers said that U.S. authorities will have to extradite him if they want him to stand trial.

Canada NOTES



SATANIC VANDALS: Rev. John Ballard of the Estabrook Bible Church in Vancouver views the damage left by vandals who trashed the church and scattered religious messages and symbols on the walls. Vancouver police are investigating the incident.

Freezing the taxman

Political leaders seem to have got the message. Canadians feel taxed to death. In the wake of recent provincial budgets in Alberta, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, which acted to keep any tax increases in the coming fiscal year, British Columbia Premier Michael Harcourt and Ontario's Bob Rae announced that they, too, intend to freeze taxes in their provincial budgets, expected in the next few weeks. But the same logic, the federal deputy finance minister, David Dodge, told the House of Commons public accounts committee what many taxpayers had long suspected: Canadians carry one of the heaviest tax burdens in the industrialized world. Dodge told the committee that the total of all government taxes—federal, provincial and municipal—has climbed to almost 40 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product. Of the world's seven major industrial powers, he added, only France has a higher tax burden, at about 44 per cent of GDP.

Harcourt, who must call an election within the next two years, said a province-wide referendum is necessary to maintain a three-year freeze on all provincial, corporate and consumer taxes. "This is not a gimmick, not an empty promise," said Harcourt, whose government raised taxes by \$770 million last year and faces a \$1.5-billion deficit for 1993-1994. "It's my personal commitment to the people." Two days later, Rae—whose government raised taxes by a record \$1.6 billion last year and who must call an election within the next 18 months—appeared to be singing from the same songbook. Rae told reporters that he is looking at spending cuts rather than tax increases to deal with a provincial deficit that Ontario's treasury says will top \$9.5 billion for 1993-1994. "I'm saying as clearly as I can that this government doesn't want to raise taxes any more," he said. "We're not going to do it."



WORLD

The main scene outside the U.S. district court in Washington on March 10 bespoke a major media sensation. Photos of reporters and technicians of TV cameras bearded the courthouse doors. A gaggle of demonstrators waved placards—"Fetus up" and "No coverup"—as some of the drama's key players arrived or departed during the day. One man needed help from federal marshals to penetrate the crowd: Robert Fiske, the New York City lawyer cited by Attorney General Janet Reno on Jan. 20 as a special prosecutor with broad powers to investigate the case known as the Whitewater affair. It was Fiske who ordered the grand jury inquiry, which will continue this week as a third-floor courtroom closed to the public. He supervised 30 White House and U.S. Treasury officials and subpoenaed all relevant documents to determine whether contacts between them over the Whitewater case had violated proper legal practice. The mere occasion of the hearings marked a controversy focused on President Bill Clinton and, more critically in recent days, on first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

As it happened, two of Hillary Clinton's aides were the last in a steady, chief of staff Margaret (Maggie) Williams and press secretary Lisa Caputo. They, along with Mark Gertman, the White House communications director who also testified last week, were summoned because they took part in one or more meetings with Treasury officials about Whitewater between last fall and early February. According to participants, these meetings were attended only by brief White House staffers on the fact that the Clintons had been named as possible beneficiaries in a 1986 Arkansas case related to Whitewater. But Bush administration officials of the Democratic, President of Hillary Clinton's active role, noted a hour and cry about the appearance of White House staffers. That led on March 4 to FBI summonses of the staffers and the far-reaching investigation the following day of chief White House counsel Bernard Williams, the New York lawyer who had been a friend of Hillary Clinton for 30 years. It also provoked a spate of attacks on the Clintons, their friends and critics, and against Hillary Clinton's role as an unelected power player in Washington.



THE WHITEWATER AFFAIR

The attacks mount on Hillary and Bill Clinton

The Washington squabble is a side-show to the main event in Little Rock, Ark., where Fiske has indicted another grand jury inquiry into the Whitewater affair. The subject of that case first arose two years ago during Clinton's run for the presidency. Many speculators have since been filled in how Arkansas politician Clinton and his lawyer wife in 1978, before he became state governor, invested in the Whitewater real estate project to develop vacation and retirement homes in northern Arkansas. Their partners were Susan and James McDougall, later the president of Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan company in Little Rock. The Clintons say that they lost money when the project faltered in the early 1980s. McDougall collapsed in debt in

1983 at a cost to the federal treasury of some \$10 million, part of a widespread failure of savings and loans companies that has stuck the federal insurer with an estimated total debt of \$306 billion. As a lawyer, Hillary Clinton represented McDougall in some dealings with federal agencies.

Another aspect of Fiske's investigation is the violent death last summer of Vincent Foster, Newhouse's deputy and a former law partner of Hillary Clinton in Little Rock who has been linked romantically with her in some published allegations. After Foster's body was found in a riverbed Washington park on July 10 with a head wound and a pistol in one hand, police ruled it suicide. Documents related to Whitewater were taken from Foster's office by White House staff before police could investigate. Several days later, the White House produced a note said to be a Foster suicide message.

Only last week in Washington, two newsletters delivered to

Madison and other media outlets led the counter attack. One, a copy-righted letter distributed by Johannes Senick International Inc. of Washington, which an employee described as an economic consulting firm, cited reports on Capitol Hill that Foster's body was somehow moved to the park beside the Potomac from an apartment said to be used by senior White House staff for brainstorming sessions. Another, a book promotion posterized in Minneapolis, cast doubt on whether Foster's death was a suicide. That one was issued in the name of Rick Guevra, who described himself as a former Arkansas businessman and an ex-convict "who was released for suspected white-collar crime," adding, "that's irrelevant." Even if such reports are unproved, they fanned an atmosphere of scandal, however misplaced and however often they are denied by the Clintons.

Despite an evasive defense of his wife by Clinton—"I do not believe for a moment that she has done anything wrong," he declared, changing a given conservative lecture with his fist—various assessments persist that her Arkansas past and her move to influence on policies and staffing have endangered the Clinton presidency.

From the beginning of March, when judge Michael E. Malone suggested in the newly-opened U.S. News and World Report that Hillary Clinton had become a political liability, to late last week, when columnist A.M. Rosenthal in the New York Times mused about "placing the First Ladying into the center of government—power by wedding, ring," the attacks on her have been relentless. Against that pattern, some voices have been raised in her defense—although as New York Times columnist Anna Quindlen noted "It would be preposterous to call Mrs. Clinton in the little woman, beaten up by the big bad boys in Congress."

At least some of the hearing up seems to have more to do with resentment in the political establishment over the Clinton administration's readiness to do something completely different in government than Washington has experienced since Democrat Jimmy Carter, and activist first lady Rosalynn Carter, challenged the governmental status quo. Only last week, a complaint on Capitol Hill provoked an outburst of editorializing over the discovery that, more than a year after Clinton took office, several of his senior staffers have not yet moved to White Oval homes to obtain permanent passes to the White House.

Such conservative discontent with the Clintons focuses on Hillary Clinton, but it encompasses the crew of bright, young men and women and older Clinton associates who sprang in Washington with so much sagacious wisdom for the system as they discovered when they ran Clinton's solid election campaign. That approach was portrayed in *The War Room*, a documentary film that has been playing for months in Washington in largely youthful audiences, and in the Clintons' halfhearted disposition of the White House team practicing the administration's goal to reform moral and substance in the health care war zone. "Spontaneous columnist George Will expressed concern over what he termed the "moral emptiness" of a younger generation of leaders in a commentary last week. He concluded "If the outcome of Whitewater is a denunciation of their moral vision, the episode will have been a blessing."

For many Americans, the Whitewater affair is likewise little more than an episode in partisan politics. A Gallup poll conducted in the second week of March showed a decline in the popularity of the Clinton administration since January, but still recorded a substantial 20 per cent of respondents approving of the President and 50 per cent giving high marks to the job Hillary Clinton is doing. Last week, outside the Washington courthouse, Maggie Williams responded to the shouted questions of reporters. "The really encouraged," she said, "to be participating in something where the feeling of fact is important, is opposed to hypocrisy and rumor mongering and gossip and sensationalism." Bill and Hillary Clinton and the rest of their team can only hope, with Williams, that the truth found by Fiske will set them free from the Whitewater affair, and its drag on their ambition to get things done. □



House of horrors

Police unearth a nightmare on Cromwell Street

You never seem to get a good murder these days," lamented George Orwell in his 1946 essay *Decline of the English Murder*. Orwell argued that murder had lost the dramatic and tragic qualities that once turned notorious killings into morality tales. But even Orwell would have had a hard time convincing the residents of Gloucester, a city of 136,000 on the edge of England's Cotswold Hills, 150 km west of London, that murder no longer sells newspapers. Even on Cromwell Street, where Fred West's three-story row house was being torn apart last week and nine bodies laid to rest, the scene was far from morose. Instead, it was a scene of chaos, much to the surprise of onlookers.

Police cordoned off the house to hold back the gawkers. TV crews and photographers who gathered outside to record each day's discoveries. A better view could be bought from a neighbor who, for \$500, showed news crews into his second-floor bedroom overlooking West's property. He had no shortage of tales. International interest in the case began after police found the body of West's daughter Heather under his backyard patio on Feb. 25, and grew with each new grisly discovery. The vigil was rewarded when a snuff-looking policeman in muddy overalls came out of the house carrying the first of two bodies, suitably cloaked with a black cloth, and passed for photos before leading it into a hearse van. In fact, the bodies were covered in human remains. The real evidence had been removed that morning, when most onlookers were attending a police news conference elsewhere, so the abiding Gloucester later staged the event.

The residents of Cromwell Street, a thub of black or mostly rowing houses off Gloucester's historic downtown core, seemed disoriented to catch an on the token. When someone told them what they knew about the West family, "The boyfriend of one of West's daughters told The Star online, which pays for interviews, that the house was a 'sex den' and that West's wife, Rosemary, was a prostitute. And



Police excavating in backyard. West (inset) remains described an investigation and led to an arrest



removed the five youngest children from the house. Police would not say what new evidence convinced them to return as Feb. 23 with a warrant and dig out Rosemary. Two days later, they found the body of 16-year-old Heather, reported missing by the family in 1982.

Police say they expect to search for bodies at four other sites in Gloucestershire—all, strongly, with the street address number 25. But bodies could be buried anywhere. "Fred built houses all over the county, all over the country," said Chris Inup, Colin Bandy. "So we've got worried homeowners who have parties built by Fred who contact us and say, 'Is there somebody under my patio?'" As the death toll climbed, there were better questions to ask. Why did neighbors, aware of strange behavior and the possible threat to children, never report their suspicions? And how could people, including a man's wife and daughter, go missing for so long without anyone wondering what happened to them? (Well, we're wrong. There are still many questions to be written about murder.)

about 25 years), had seven children, some of whom are of uncertain parentage. Police suspect West may have up to 30 more children scattered around the country. He also rented out rooms, often to teenage runaways. "He was creepy," said Sarah Green, 18, who spent time at the house as a guest of West's daughter Tina. "There was something wrong with him. When he'd come home from work, he'd have sex with his wife on the sofa-bed. I can't understand why he'd let his wife sleep with other blokes, and film them."

It is difficult to establish the accuracy of many of the claims being made about West last week. Police would not comment on whether homemade sex videos had been preserved from the house, or on any of the other speculation that Fred British parents, only to be paroled back at last by neighbors. But it was no more about West, picked up by a policeman and pursued over at least two years, that launched an investigation. In 1990, West

was charged with three counts of raping a minor, and Rosemary was accused of procuring minors for sex. The charges were dismissed, but later when the key witness, one of West's children, refused to testify.

But social workers removed the five youngest children from the house. Police would not say what new evidence convinced them to return as Feb. 23 with a warrant and dig out Rosemary. Two days later, they found the body of 16-year-old Heather, reported missing by the family in 1982.

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BRUCE WALLACE in Gloucester



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Police in Algiers check cars for weapons; ethnic strife member (behind) sing

ALGERIA

A reign of terror

Muslim fundamentalists battle for power

Life on the leafy boulevards of Algiers can sometimes appear almost normal. Girls in short skirts mingle with women in traditional Muslim garb. Cabs rattle with honks and chatter. And vendors haggle with customers outside their stalls. But it is only a facade of normalcy. For the past two years, Algeria has been under a state of siege, with nightly curfews and curbed civil rights. In the capital alone more than 10,000 soldiers patrol the streets. Among them are so-called *rampes*, masked troops armed with Kalashnikov automatic rifles who stalk the city 24 hours a day. Their prey are anyone they suspect of being a fundamentalist who declared war on the North African state in January 1992, after the military blocked parliamentary elections meant to deliver victory to the Islamic Salvation Front, known by its French acronym FIS. Since then, more than 3,000 people have been killed in a cycle of guerrilla terrorism and government repression that shows no sign of abating.

The primary target of the fundamentalists has been the largely secular middle class, urban, French-speaking professionals who do not want Algeria to become an Islamic state like Iran. Fear for their lives has driven thousands of them to seek refuge in Tunisia, Morocco, France and Quebec. Even children have become targets. In one recent case, Rana Boudgama, a 17-year-old schoolgirl, was shot dead by a gunman in front of her home

in El-Bla, 45 km south of Algiers. The local newspaper *Le Matin* said she was slain because she was not wearing the head scarf required by Islamic fundamentalists. Many Algerians say that anti-FIS vigilantes and pro-government death squads are also responsible for violence; sometimes have told reporters that they have seen unarmaged men who had been killed, the national bullet riddled corpses appear on the streets the next day. Indeed, in January the human rights group *Medecins Sans Frontières* accused both sides of phasing Algeria into a "ritual civil war in which the rights of no one are inviolable and the democratic process has been all but abandoned."

Fundamentalists have also left the terror. At least 38 have been assassinated since September, prompting an order of house arrest, journalists and human rights dependents. These who remain take extraordinary precautions: they rarely venture out into public, using bulletproof cars or heavily armored vehicles when they do. As one Western diplomat put it: "I don't want to be a martyr to the cause."



For skilled Algerians, emigration is usually a possibility. But in recent months, several Western embassies in Algiers closed or reduced their immigration offices because of concern for the safety of staff. "I think we, as a caring nation with a record of helping others persecuted or in trouble, should be concerned," said Roger Thérault, head of the Quebec immigration service in Paris, which covers Algeria. "But helping Algerians presents particular security problems that makes this task very difficult." Still, some Canadians say that Ottawa is not doing enough. Said Lella Larbi, a spokeswoman for the Maghreb Association in Quebec, where about 4,000 people of Algerian descent live: "A lot of people are in danger in Algeria, but so far there is no evidence that the Canadian government wants to help. We're extremely worried about the situation."

The situation appears most perilous in the countryside. Rugged terrain and desperately poor inhabitants aid the guerrillas, who control most of the mountain ranges. Said the sole survivor of a recent guerrilla ambush near the western city of Oran: "My impression was of a proper army combating us." Wherever they take control, the fundamentalists impose strict Islamic law. They have torn down satellite dishes, banned newspapers and segregated men and women on buses.

Islamic terror has been fuelled by the atrocious living conditions in which most Algerians live. In the capital's housing shacks, as many as 77 people share a two-room apartment. Unemployment is 38 per cent, and the young are hardest hit. Said one teenager loitering against a wall in the anonymity slum of Bab El Oued: "I have no job, no home and no future."

In late January, the army-backed High Council of Security chose the defence minister, retired Gen. Lucienne Zervou, as president. Many anti-FIS Algerians welcomed the choice, arguing that it was better to have a military dictatorship than a fundamentalist one. But few Algerians were optimistic about Zervou's chances of restoring stability or bringing prosperity to the country. The fundamentalists refuse to lay down their arms until the democratic election victory of the FIS is recognized—something Zervou is not prepared to do. And although the violence so far has been localized, some observers predict a widespread social explosion if the government, being a crushing financial debt of \$35 billion, tries to print money. But no one is sure.

International Monetary Fund to raise profits of substandard Canada. A decade of terrorism is all that most Algerians can hope for.

ANDREW FELDSON and SUSAN ANDREWS in Algiers

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World NOTES



Non-Nazi plead for mercy before being killed by Bophuthatswana soldiers' ambush

A bloody uprising

After several days of violent unrest in Bophuthatswana, the autocratic leader of the black homeland, Lucas Mangope, agreed to negotiate and agreed to participate in South Africa's first all-race elections next month. Witnesses said more than 80 people were killed in the fighting: first as a black uprising against Mangope and later in a failed attempt by white extremists to come to his aid. Bophuthatswana, one of four nominally independent homelands created by the Pretoria government to deny blacks citizenship rights in South Africa, is due to disappear after the April parliamentary elections.

The situation in Bophuthatswana deteriorated to explode after about 3,000 armed white night warriors poured into the homeland to defend Mangope against what they called an uprising fomented by the African National Congress. Several gunships roared and homemade para-troopers ambushed three neo-Nazis in the capital, Mmabatho. After one of the whites was shot and killed, a soldier bombed off the legs of two comrades and, with television cameras rolling, after the other two men lay motionless in a pool of blood, pleading for mercy. At least three blacks were killed shortly afterward in drive-by shootings by nightmarish whites. Thousands subsided after Mangope reversed them and announced his decision to

take part in the elections. But as a provocateur, South Africa President F. W. de Klerk said troops sent Bophuthatswana in what he called a "security action, not a political one."

The long road home

About 150 Canadian peacekeepers had been trying since last November to get out of Serbia, an enclave in eastern Bosnia where they had been protecting Muslims from Serbian fighters for the past 11 months. The Serbs repeatedly rejected appeals to let the Canadians be replaced by other UN soldiers. In early March, they finally agreed to allow 180 Dutch troops into the town, forcing the Canadians to leave. But conflict is still raging in Bosnia. A Canadian convoy that set out last week to evacuate the Serbians troops was detained at two Serbian checkpoints. And on the return trip, neo-fascist breakdancers slowed the convoy to a snail's pace over 200 km of hilly, winding roads.

On March 10, the Canadian finally reached another headquarters in Visoko. But there will be little rest for the weary. The troops from Serbia are being ordered to help patrol other ceasefire lines. Said Maj Paul Sarawak, acting commanding officer at Visoko: "We'd like to continue there once off, but in Bosnia there are no guaranteed schedules."

MASSACRE INQUIRY

The Israeli army admitted negligence in the Feb. 26 massacre of at least 29 Muslims at a Hebron mosque. At a commission of inquiry in Jerusalem, Maj. Gen. Dany Yabon, military commander of the West Bank, said the killings might have been prevented had five of the 50 soldiers and policemen assigned to security at the mosque not been missing from their posts. He said three of them had even slept. Baruch Goldstein, a Jewish settler armed with an automatic rifle, sprayed bullets at hundreds of Muslims kneeling in prayer.

OUT OF AFRICA

The last major U.S. Army combat unit left Mogadishu, ending the United States' 14-month peacekeeping presence in Somalia. Several other Western contingents are also planning to leave this month. A 20,000-strong UN force will remain there under Asian and African command, but its mandate has been limited mainly to protecting relief operations.

TRAIN DISASTER

A train packed with black commuters on their way to work jumped the rails on a steep curve outside Durban, South Africa, killing at least 60 people and injuring 200, many of them critically. Investigators attached the wreckage for clues to the cause of the disaster, which some black leaders blamed on sabotage.

FELONS STRIKE OUT

California Gov. Pete Wilson signed into law a so-called three-strikes and you're out initiative that would mandate a prison sentence of 25 years in life for those convicted three times of a felony. The measure gives California one of the toughest sentencing laws in the United States. Critics said the law is too broad and could mean life sentences for people who commit such nonviolent felonies as looting, shoplifting. The state legislature is considering another bill that would restrict the "three strikes" to such violent crimes as murder and rape.

HEATHROW ATTACKS

The Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for two earlier attacks on London's Heathrow airport. Right mortar bombs hit a main runway and an aircraft parking area, but all failed to detonate. Officials in London and Dublin insisted that the attacks had not shaken their faith in a recent peace initiative that seeks to persuade the IRA to stop fighting and join talks on Northern Ireland's future.

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RACING IN THE STREETS

With billions at stake, two Canadian assembly plants go head to head

BY BOSS LAVER

Roy Hissak didn't need to be at the centre of attention. For the past decade, as Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd. assembly plant manager in Oakville, Ont., he has been responsible for building the compact Ford Tempo and its cousin's twin, the Mercury Topaz—steel, boxy models that automotive stylists complain are as boring as sliced white bread. But now, these cars can be being played out at Hissak's plant as twisted over to making one of this year's most anticipated and heavily publicized new vehicles: the Windsor station. Stylish and remarkably aerodynamic for its size, the Windsor is Ford's most serious attempt yet to grab a large chunk of the increasingly lucrative compact market. To give up for its introduction this month, the plant has boosted employment by 1,100 workers, to 3,500. "There's a real buzz around here these days," Hissak says in his slickly furnished office upstairs from the factory, 35 km west of Toronto. "In a climate where other companies are shutting down, we've got a product that's creating jobs for Canadians. Now, we just have to make sure that we don't screw it up."

Ford's Oakville assembly workers are not the only ones who are building their livelihoods off the new Windsor. The Windsor takes off. Three hundred kilometers northwest of Hissak's plant, in the Ontario border city of Windsor across the river, Chrysler Canada Ltd. employees are mounting the new minivan's splashy debut, with every bit as much interest—and concern. After all, Chrysler invested the North American



market 18 years ago when it introduced the Dodge Caravan and Plymouth Voyager, the first carlike vans with front-wheel drive that were both spacious and easy to handle. And from the beginning, Chrysler's Windsor plant has been the primary source of those two vehicles, accounting for 2.7 million of the almost 10 million Chrysler minivans now on the road. "When you say minivan, people automatically think of Chrysler," boasts Rick Schenkels, 45, the muscular, blue-talking chairman of the Canadian Auto Workers unit at the Windsor factory. "Soon, Ford's getting all the minivan rights

now. But we've always been the market leader—and we can't let that go." Call it the battle of the Canadian-made minivans. More than a contest between competing designs of suburban people-movers, the latest showdown between Ford and Chrysler has sparked a passionate rivalry between two Ontario assembly plants, and by extension the cities in which they are located.



□ Oakville assembly plant (above) and (left), Ford Windsor (top left), Dodge Caravan (top right), a high stake rivalry

The stakes are enormous. Taking into account the wages and taxes they pay, as well as the value of parts purchased from local suppliers, each plant will contribute more than \$1.5 billion this year to the Canadian economy. Better yet, an estimated 50 per cent of what they manufacture will be exported to the United States. Testimony of local companies' claim is the evidence that they will reach their production and sales targets: Ford's Oakville plant is capable of churning out 200,000 Windstars a year, while Chrysler's Windsor facility, with 3,500 employees working around the clock on three shifts, is aiming to produce a record 250,000 minivans in 1994. But if either company falters, or if the demand for minivans dries up as quickly as the two automakers hope, the impact on the surrounding community is bound to be severe. "We're the new kid on the block, trying to cut into an established market," says Bill Adams, 33, a 27-year veteran of the Ford assembly line who lives in nearby Exeter,

Ont. "I sure hope it's a success, because this thing means a lot of jobs to a lot of people."

Adams and his fellow workers in Oakville have known tough times before. Since the early 1980s, employment levels at the factory have fluctuated between 2,700 and 3,500. Unpredictable demand for its products was only part of the problem. Another reason was that Oakville was one of two Ford factories responsible for assembling the Tempo and Topaz—the other was in Kansas City, Mo. With so much capacity, Ford often found itself with many cars sitting idle that it could sell, particularly when the recession took hold in the late 1980s. The result: Ford sometimes scaled back its production and laid off a large percentage of its workforce for weeks at a time.

Even now, many of Ford's Oakville workers trace painful memories of those years. The layoffs were bad enough from their perspective, but what made matters worse was the nagging suspicion that their counterparts in Kansas City were being spared the worst effects of the sales slump. "Some years, the work plant here was shut down for as long as 12 weeks," says one senior Oakville employee. Meanwhile, Kansas

City would be up and running for all but two or three weeks of the year." During one of those slow periods, in 1990, Ford announced with considerable fanfare that the Chinese government had signed an order not to lower than 7,000 Toyotas. The collections in Oakville, however, were shorted. "There was more than a little bitterness when we found out that every one of those cars was going to be built in Kansas City," recalled Bill Lloyd, an employee relations manager at the plant.

That history helps to explain why the Windsor is more than a piece of machinery to the people who are responsible for building the new minivan. It is also a potential economic godsend—not just because the Oakville plant is the only Ford factory with a mandate to produce the vehicle. "Bringing the Windsor here has been good for everyone," says Len Miller, a supervisor on the assembly line. "With the Tempo and Topaz, there was a world of downtime. But our forecasts now are for steady employment, which is great. And I think everyone's happy that we're finally building something new."

Of course, with any new vehicle there are

teething troubles. In the case of the Windsor, Ford went to unusual lengths to minimize any surprises. Two and a half years ago, the company put together a team of about 110 assembly-line workers to build prototypes of the minivan in a large hangar the room off to one side of the main plant. This way, they could suggest design changes and look for ways to make the vehicle easier to build. Among the more than 3,000 recommendations they made, the team came up with a faster, more efficient method of installing the Windsor's body reinforcement panel. "In the old days," Lloyd says, "brake-hygiene was usually built by a bunch of guys in Detroit who probably didn't even think much of something wasn't quite right. But when you know that in a few months you're going to have to start assembling 75 of these things an hour, you take damn care that everything fits."

Despite those precautions, Ford officials acknowledge that the Windsor's launch has not been entirely trouble-free. As part of its quality-control program, the company recently invited its workers to write one of the early-production vehicles home for a day, a weekend or even longer. They quickly discovered that the Windsor has an annoying tendency to squeak in an extremely cold weather. Engineers moved the problem to four body-panch-used components that are supposed to ensure that the minivan's subframe does not rub up against the steel body. Ford promptly said that the entire factory down for four days only this month to give its customers time to

redesign the defective parts. Meanwhile, the company shipped a brace on shipments of all its 5,000 Windstars assembled to that point. Each will now have to be retrofitted with the new components—a time-consuming process that the company clearly isn't pleased with. "A few years ago, we might have gone ahead and delivered the defective vehicles to our dealers, then issued a recall," says Jim Lord, a Ford spokesman. "But we aren't taking any chances this time. The vehicle has got to live up to the standards before we ship it."

So far, at least, the reviews have been generally positive. Independent analysts who have driven the Windsor praise its handling, comfort and quiet ride. Among that it offers more space and better safety features than its older siblings, the rear wheel-drive Ford Aerostar and third-drive Chrysler Voyager. "The Aerostar is a complaint that the only available engine, a 3.0-litre V-6, is slightly underpowered given the vehicle's size and weight. (Owners say that Ford is planning to redesign the engine and boost its horsepower, but the new version may not be ready until the 1995 model year.)"

Such concerns aside, says Ford employees

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**NEWFOUNDLAND
& LABRADOR**

Wing of the road

If the Canadian business community bowed out awards in the same way that Hollywood bestows Oscars, Ted Rogers would walk away with an arsenal of statistics this year. Decorating his mantle would be prizes for the best deal, best direction, best annual meeting, a lifetime achievement award and maybe even the Mr. Congeniality banner. Hollywood comes readily to mind because the Rogers Communications Inc. annual meeting last week was filled with all the suspense, humor, high drama and strategy of the best movie thriller. From the meeting's unusual setting, the elegant courtyard of Toronto's Art Gallery of Ontario, to the third origin theme of the *Phantom of the Opera* (three songs—an inside joke between Rogers and Maclean Hunter Ltd.'s president, Russell Johnson—the mood was theatrical. As the suspense, Rogers actually signed the \$2.5-billion deal to acquire Maclean Hunter on the stage in full view of the audience, just minutes before he announced it. The meeting, like the takeover itself, was executed with seamless precision. The structured patterning of shareholders and investors to vestment professionals responded as they would to any thrilling theatrical production in a spontaneous eruption, they rose to their feet with a thunderous ovation.

But not everyone is applauding. Critics say that the 60-year-old Rogers' proposed acquisition of Maclean Hunter puts too much control of the Canadian communications industry in the hands of one man. When Rogers signed the deal last Thursday, he obtained an agreement from Maclean Hunter's board of directors that it would stop opposing his month-long takeover campaign in exchange for a \$100 million in his bid to \$17.60 a share. Assuming that shareholders accept the offer, as they almost certainly will because no other offers appear to be coming forward, his company proposes to merge Maclean Hunter's cable television operations with its own. Eventually, by swapping cable systems with other companies, Rogers aims to control most of the cable services in the heavily populated Toronto region. In addition, by acquiring Maclean Hunter's sister assets in newspapers and periodicals—which include the Sun

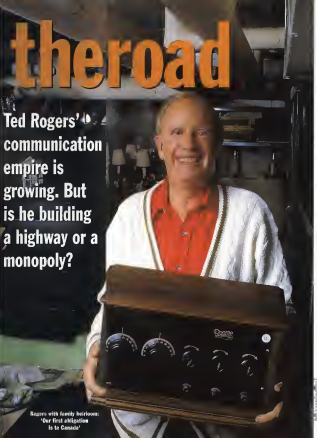
papers in Ottawa, Edmonton, Calgary and Toronto, The Financial Post, Newsworld, Channel 5 and L'Acadie—his radio and television stations, Rogers will become Canada's new media czar.

Added to Rogers' other interests in cellular telephones, broadcasting and long distance telephone services, he will control a greater range of communications properties than any other person in Canada. Rogers says he wants such diversity to prepare for the so-called information highway. "I'm just sorry Maclean Hunter doesn't have a universal studio," Rogers said in an interview last week. "But I guess we can't have everything." Critics, however, say that Rogers already has far too much. Stud Hudson Jurech, a communications law professor at the University of Toronto, of the Maclean Hunter acquisition "is an uneasy and forced thinking—it's grossly."

The proposed merger must now be reviewed by two major regulatory bodies in Canada, the Bureau of Competition Policy and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), before it can be completed (page 38). Although other industry participants were still struggling last week to grasp the full implications of the deal, it appears likely to generate intense debate and opposition. "The economy of this thing is just beginning to sink in," said Buzz Ager, head of the Global TV network. "I don't want to say that the CRTC will be an impediment, but it will certainly be an microscope as to its ability to regulate this industry." To reinforce the degree of concern that the broadcasting industry is beginning to feel, Ager told Maclean's that if Rogers is allowed to be both the largest cable company in Canada, with 40 per cent of all English-speaking cable subscribers, as well as a program provider, as it through its ownership of such channels as TTV and the Home Shopping Network, the broadcasting industry will regulate by developing its own carrier. "We believe that carriers are carriers, and programmers are programmers and neither should be allowed to be both," declared Ager. "Rogers can't be both the full hedgehog in the highway determining who gets to drive on it, and also be driving some of the trucks that want access."

Ager's concern is that Rogers, as an information carrier, has an unfair ability to give

Ted Rogers' communication empire is growing. But is he building a highway or a monopoly?



Rogers with family heirloom: 'Our first obligation is to Canada'

preference to known programming. He sees that Rogers should be allowed to combine its cable assets with Maclean Hunter's only if it agrees to give up all its programming assets. Rogers, however, argues that in the not-so-distant future, technology will have advanced to the point where cable companies will be able to provide thousands of channels—in effect, almost unlimited access. Said Rogers: "It's amusing by people who complain about access, because in the future, with digital technology, we're going to have huge capacity." He added, "It's very helpful for Rogers to provide the greatest number of services possible for our subscribers. We want to give everyone access." Ager remains skeptical. "That's all very charming," he said, but earlier this month the cable industry initiated the CRTC that it would be able to provide only about six new channels to meet the demand created by the 48 proposed specialty channels that have applied to the CRTC for licenses.

This is not the first time that Ted Rogers has stirred up controversy by plucking headlines into the future. Two years ago, Rogers, through its investment in United Communications Inc., took on the telephone companies' monopoly and won the right to offer competing long-distance telephone services.

Rogers founded his communications empire in 1969 when, as a University of Toronto student, he launched Canada's first FM radio station, CRRF in Toronto. Since then, he has repeatedly gambled on the future, and so far seems to have been astute in judging not only the direction of technological change but also the degree of market interest in the new services that such advances demand.

Although his company has been notoriously unprofitable because Rogers keeps plowing profits back into it to build new businesses, its share price has soared. A \$100 investment in Rogers Communications shares 13 years ago would now be worth more than \$1,300. Enthusiasm for Rogers abounds, especially among those who have benefited directly from that spectacular growth. In Glaxo, a top investment manager in Toronto, says that Rogers is undoubtedly Canada's leading businessman. "There isn't a second who even comes close," said Glaxo, who began buying Rogers' shares in 1984. "We've made more money in Rogers than in any other Canadian stock." And at the moment, after reviewing the possibilities that Maclean Hunter acquisition presents, Glaxo says he is currently invested in Rogers' stock "up to my ears."

By contrast, Maclean Hunter, the company that Rogers says he has most coveted in almost electrically opposed in operating style. But Maclean Hunter, founded 106 years ago by John Maclean, a Forest reporter who migrated Canada to have his own newspaper, has also been a star performer on the stock market (page 48). It has almost no debt and has a consistent record of profitability—evidenced by the investment community. Investment manager Peter de

Auer, managing director of NBS/Novo Capital Markets Canada, said: "I've never held Rogers because it was always either too leveraged or too speculative. But I knew Maclean Hunter very well and it has been a superb company." De Auer says that Maclean Hunter, unlike Rogers, has been a conservatively managed "industrial dinosaur" company that has preferred to pay proven technology rather than trying to start the latest wave of start-ups. Novus de Auer: "I had to pick one large company manager in Canada who built his company in the absolutely best way that I can imagine, it would be [Maclean Hunter chairman] Don Campbell." Campbell, who joined Maclean Hunter in an accountant in 1951, has followed a strategy of gradually adding new businesses as old ones matured and became less profitable. De Auer says that in the last decade Maclean Hunter had simply become as big that it was impossible to sustain the phenomenal rates of growth that it had achieved in the 1960s and 1970s.

But in the end, it was Rogers Communications—the younger, more aggressive risk taker—that outlasted one of Canada's venerable blue-chip companies. Said Gholson: "Twenty years ago, the idea that Rogers would take over Maclean Hunter would be given the same probability as Jack's Rat Dog Street taking over McDonald's." Even Rogers admits a little daunted by his success. "It was something I'd always thought about and talked about," he told Maclean's. "But the reality really was that our company was financially strong enough to do it. We could have either seen it or explain that we're serious at different decades or we could go for the big one, the one that we're



Osborne (left), Tel and Lorrain Rogers; takeover business laughed off at company's annual meeting

never dreamt of at all," he added. "My experience is that you should go for the big one. Maclean Hunter is a glorious company." Analysts say that because of Maclean Hunter's almost debt-free condition and its large stable of revenue-producing assets, Rogers' financial situation will be enhanced by the acquisition even though it will take an \$8-billion debt to complete the transaction. But the deal also comes with many risks for

Rogers, who controls Rogers Communications by owning 93 per cent of its voting shares. To postpone the financing for the deal, Rogers says that he and his wife, Lorrain, as heirs to the Woodworth fortune, have reserved all their personal wealth in Rogers Communications shares. "We've put our chips back into the company," said Rogers. "We've put everything we own back in." The paper value of their shareholdings is in excess

of \$1 billion. Although in some circles Rogers has occasionally been compared to other great Canadian business families like Robert Simpson and the Richardson family, Rogers says he is not making the mistake they made by moving into vastly different businesses on a large scale (page 62). "It would be a great mistake," said Rogers. "But I don't believe that I don't want it. They do want to do things they're ignorant of." Still, Rogers has taken on a different kind of risk. The success of the deal is dependent on the CRTC's approval. And in the worst-case scenario, it could hurt them by slowing down the deal, leaving Rogers to carry the financing costs.

Maclean Hunter says he has no one uncertainties. President Osborne is planning to stay with the company at least until the CRTC decision is made, expected by early next year. But Rogers' goal of acquiring Maclean Hunter's Canadian cable operations—and as more than 800 employees—with his own threatens to cause significant job losses, despite Rogers' claim that layoffs are not in evidence, even at home. "Yes, when you have a city with two full groups of people there will be an opportunity to retrain," he said. "But with the growth that we're having and with training programs, I'd be surprised if a year later we don't have more people rather than less."

Another uncertainty is the fate of Maclean Hunter's magazine and newspaper publishing assets that have been partially consumed by the recession by the company's cable revenues. Many financial analysts doubt that Rogers is really committed to these publishing assets, despite his repeated assurances to the contrary. For his part, Rogers last week was

making no commitments. "We haven't seen the books yet, so we don't know," he said. "But it is not our intention to sell it. Hopefully, we'll be able to add something to it and two players will emerge."

Still, Rogers, who had said repeatedly during the month-long "take over" struggle that he intended to quickly sell Maclean Hunter's U.S. cable assets in the hopes of cashing in on an \$1.5 billion to pay down debt, appears to have already changed his mind. "It may be possible to not have to sell the U.S. assets, and to keep it for five years," he said. That should be a relief to Rogers because of a regulatory cable rate rollback in the United States, which has probably reduced the amount of money those assets would bring if they were sold immediately. Said Rogers, who netted \$500 million when he sold his U.S. cable assets in 1989: "We level



Campbell riding new momentum as old man became less profitable

certainty of having a new boss, one who has a reputation for being a demanding workaholic. "The reputation, even slight, of an officer with the outstanding grasp and public manner that Rogers appears to extend to everyone from Maclean Hunter president Osborne, who at one point during the takeover battle blamed Rogers to "desert his co-captain," to shareholders, his chairman—and even reporters. Said Lorrain: "I don't know if we're too close-knit."

Rogers has been a man who has worked with Rogers for 25 years. "I'd worked off the time so, yeah, you can expect it to be from him at 500 hours." At 2 a.m. "No, not at 2 a.m.," guffawed Lorrain. "He's not a night owl. He's a night owl." But Lorrain conceded that Rogers has a reputation for verbally roughing up his senior managers occasionally in meetings. "I'd be damn sure to make a decision, he usually says one of four complaints," said Lorrain, drawing a circle on a sheet of paper and drawing it into four compartments.

Rogers already leads money in cable and TV production through his Rogers Television—started in 1981—offices in 1982. "We don't have to do that," said Lorrain. But the cost accountants appear to want more than voluntary commitments from cable operators. Last month, it ordered the U.S. cable operators to pay \$200 million over five years to a new Canadian Programming Production Fund, starting in 1995.

Because Rogers will also acquire Maclean Hunter's large stable of newspapers, magazines and radio stations, some competing publishers raised concerns last week that the deal might make it harder for those to alter programming on cable television or new commercial advertising. But Rogers dismissed these worries. "We may be developing the high end, but everyone will be able to spend it," he said. "It may seem that simple to him, but explaining all the implications of the deal to regulators will undoubtedly take a long time."

JOHN DALEY

THE NEXT HURDLES

I was on an end and a beginning. When Ted Rogers sat at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Village Water Court last week and signed the documents outlining the terms of his company's proposed \$3.1-billion takeover of Maclean Hunter Ltd., it capped a month of battles and one triumph. The deal would give Maclean Hunter executives that the deal was in their shareholders' best interests. But Rogers must now win approval for the deal from regulators in Ottawa and Washington, a task that will probably take at least a year to complete. Surveying the bureaucratic landscape that lies ahead, Maclean Hunter president Donald Osborne—who clashed with regulators over Maclean Hunter's 1988 takeover of Schloer Communications Ltd.—said jokingly that Rogers is as far as "a nice and special sort." Rogers himself knows full well what he's in for. "There is a tremendous task ahead that I think we can win," he said. "But we shouldn't walk around thinking it's done."

Until the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in Washington and both

the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) and the Bureau of Competition Policy in Ottawa approve the merger, Maclean Hunter will be in the custody of a trustee. Rogers has appointed Pierre Jussim, a former CRTC president and CRTC chairman, as the trustee to oversee Maclean Hunter while Rogers awaits the regulators' verdict.

The legal battles appear to be lower in Washington than in Ottawa. In addition to FCC approval for the merger, Rogers will also have to obtain permission for his proposed sale of part or all of Maclean Hunter's U.S. cable holdings. That may well be a controversial process. Maclean Hunter's American holdings are well equipped with those of its major competitors, and regulators in Washington do not watch the company with the same keen eyes as do their counterparts in Ottawa. Indeed, in an official notice, which the FCC issued the day before last week's merger announcement—when Rogers proposed takeover but was still a

hostile one—the commission cautioned the company to use "Maclean Hunter."

Rogers is braced to face a tougher ride at home. Both the CRTC and the competition bureau, the branch of the industry department that reviews mergers and takeovers, can recommend approval, disapproval or major revisions to the terms of the deal. And both bodies will have to wrestle with the same controversial trade-off: whether or not Rogers needs to divest the western U.S. assets and British Columbia cable markets to compete effectively against telephone companies and U.S.-owned cable giants for the delivery of a wide range of services to local areas. As industry lawyer John Messing said in an interview: "That's the essence of the argument."

At the competitive bureau, the deal will be reviewed first by the director of investigation and research, George Adity, who will decide whether or not a substantially lessor or prevents competition in any of the markets affected by the merger. If he concludes that that is the case, he can recommend changes to the deal to the parties. He can also challenge the merger in front of the Competition

Tribe, a quasi-judicial body that can order more fully defined orders.

In the past, agency officials and the tribunal have been skeptical of the argument that bigger is better—but have only required a handful of mergers to be approved. In most cases, Adity says, the agency's approach is to identify potential competitors of a deal that inhibit competition and "to try to get our member efforts on those competitors only." That has resulted in major reviews to some deals. In 1990, the tribunal forced Imperial Oil Ltd. to sell off 600 service stations, before it allowed the company to buy Tesco-Canada Inc. for \$2 billion.

The CRTC will examine a broader range of issues when it holds hearings on the merger. Likely some of them will be: "There are a lot of very big questions," CRTC chairman Keith Sykes said last week. Like the Competition Tribunal, the CRTC has also been dealing with changes to prevent takeover deals. In 1989 and 1990, it rejected two attempts by Maclean Hunter to sell the Hamilton television station CHCH, which the company acquired in 1980 (see sidebar on page 62).



Last, Rogers' vice chairman and lawyer: Ted works all the time

In 1989, before finally allowing it to sell the station to Vancouver-based West. Western International Communications Ltd. for \$40 million. Last week, Rogers vice-chairman Philip Lund declined to speculate about which body says the commission might want the newly acquired company to sell off.

But while the CRTC may order asset sales, analysts say that it is unlikely to reject the takeover outright. Harbison Jussim, a professor of communications law at the University of Toronto, says the commission will probably encourage Rogers to increase funding for Canadian television programming. Declared Jussim: "The commission has always tried to extract a quid pro quo."



Last, Rogers' vice chairman and lawyer: Ted works all the time

Production Fund, starting in 1995. Because Rogers will also acquire Maclean Hunter's large stable of newspapers, magazines and radio stations, some competing publishers raised concerns last week that the deal might make it harder for those to alter programming on cable television or new commercial advertising. But Rogers dismissed these worries. "We may be developing the high end, but everyone will be able to spend it," he said. "It may seem that simple to him, but explaining all the implications of the deal to regulators will undoubtedly take a long time."

JOHN DALEY

believed, "Too late. Too early. Too much in transition. Too little information."

Rogers says he's board the criticism before, but he doesn't take them too seriously. "We don't have much success here in management," he said. "I think they say these things for a lot of a pile. We do have strenuous debates and sometimes the board will kick it into all the votes even though I control the company. Graham Sanger [former vice-president of financial] has more votes. No one has ever been reappointed or fired for causing us to lose a vote."

Rogers claims that he performs a rather simple role in the company. "I'm in charge of the department of discontent," he said. "I'm discontented with pretty much everything. I like the rain. You can really stir it up. I love the company meeting." He says, however, that he will be taking a working holiday for a few days later this month. "When I come back," he said, "I'll say to people, 'Why aren't this done?' Why isn't that done? What's been going on around here, anyway?"

But the biggest uncertainty of all covers not just Maclean, Hunter and Rogers but the rapidly changing communications industry. That uncertainty is driven by the radical technological innovations that are creating new services and creating old ones to become obsolete. As investment analyst *Investment Research* notes, the difficulty is predicting the future of communications—including the likelihood that the existing information highway will actually be built and travelled to the degree that some people are discussing—it is that only those people who understand the coming changes can truly grasp the kinds of new products and services that may be possible.

Rogers, who declined to be interviewed last week, tried to explain his vision of the future, but knew some people puzzled and tried to cast rhetoric from reality. "The fundamental truth is that the most evolution of electronic communications and computer capabilities, on a personal level, is bringing us to a new era that will change how we will all work and live," said Rogers in his speech to the annual meeting. But then, he went on to mention the "social" side of the revolution. "Canadian companies are small and underfunded by world standards," he said. "To preserve a unique and distinctive Canadian voice, we must do the things now in Canada that the Canadians everywhere at a Time Warner, a Rupert Murdoch or a

major new Canadian service, with more opportunities for regional closeness, more opportunities to hear and tell Canadian stories."

That focus on size rather than place for new services, worries some observers. Said Ed Nease, director of the Centre for Telecommunications and Information Studies at Columbia University in New York City: "I am becoming sceptical about the information highway. I think it's mostly dogmatising. I don't see many real

plans for building it. And as for the idea that Rogers wants to grow larger by acquiring competitors, he added: "If you're going to err, you should have too many centers, not too few, if you want to encourage innovation." The University of Toronto's Jamich said that he would be more surprised if Rogers were developing his money and energies in developing new services and products, "not just making a grab for cable." Added Jamich: "Rogers may be a visionary, but he's a business visionary, not a true communications visionary." Both pessimists cited, as an example of the kind of promising experiment that leads to new services, an agreement last week between Telecommunications Inc., the largest American cable company, and software giant Microsoft to develop core software on which to build the much-vaunted information highway.

But, said anticipating even this criticism, Rogers told Maclean's last week that he and Bill Gates, Microsoft's dynamic chairman, have agreed to test new types of software in Vancouver offices and he expects later this year. "Our talks are confidential," said Rogers, "so I don't want to blow this cover. But it will be new and done in Canada first."

Rogers spent much of the past year meeting with communications industry leaders like Gates, trying to prepare for the changes that are coming in the three main home information and entertainment tools—the telephone, television and personal computer—gradually converge.

Rogers, who doesn't have a computer on his desk, says that he uses a 386-model Dellware whose computer software runs most of the personal computers in North America, is clearly far ahead of him in understanding computers. "But I get the drift of what's going on," said Rogers. "Things that seem to be very expensive today, he's trying to make less expensive. He's trying to move from very expensive supercomputers to off-the-shelf computers in video file servers."

If he is successful, Rogers says that consumers will soon be able to use an entertainment, information, news or education program on demand. "It will be a new world and that's the world we're going after," he said. It was big, bold dream, but it would make a nice excuse for Rogers for next year's annual meeting. Rogers is probably already planning a big strategy number.

BRENDA GALLAGHER



ROGERS REACH ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS INC. (REVENUES: \$1.34 BILLION)

ASSETS

CABLE: Canada's largest cable television company, with 34 cable systems (mainly in Ontario and British Columbia) serving 1.6 million subscribers. Also runs video rental stores and owns the Canadian Home Shopping Network.

BROADCASTING: Nine AM and 11 AM radio stations in Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, and Manitoba. Owns Toronto's CHMTV, a multicultural television station, and TVO, a youth-oriented cable channel, as well as a 25-percent stake in Viewers Choice Canada, a pay-per-view cable service.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Holds a 32-percent interest in long-distance company United Communications Inc.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS: Owns 60 per cent of Rogers Cellular Communications Inc., a Canada-wide cellular phone service with more than 500,000 subscribers as well as a paging service.

MACLEAN HUNTER LTD. (REVENUES: \$1.74 BILLION)

ASSETS

CABLE: Canada's fourth largest cable company, with 690,000 subscribers in Ontario and 524,000 in the United States.

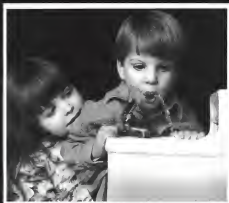
BROADCASTING: Runs one TV and 21 radio stations through three subsidiaries in Ontario, Alberta, Canada and Alberta.

NEWSPAPERS: Owns 41, or 60 per cent of Toronto Sun Publishing Corp., which publishes five newspapers including The Financial Post.

PUBLICATIONS: Publishes 191 periodicals, including Maclean's, Chatelaine and Canadian Business, as well as 60 other publications in Canada. Also has publishing interests in Britain, the United States and Europe.

PRINTING: Owns 15 plants in Canada and the United States.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES: Operates radio paging, land and consumer stores, book distribution and direct mail services.



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Life in the fast lane

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

The defining anecdote about Ted Rogers, the cable czar who became a media mogul last week by swallowing Maclean Hunter Ltd., dates back to the time when he was the "Boy on the Couch"—instead of just looking like one, which, at 60, he still does. That was in 1961 when Ted was a law student at Toronto's Osgoode Hall but hyperactive in Conservative politics. He needed to see then PC leader John Diefenbaker on a policy issue but he couldn't get an appointment. Finally, granted precisely 30 minutes in the great man's office, he was squeezed in between the prime minister's most urgent chores. But when Rogers got in to see the chief, Diefenbaker spent half the allotted time telling a political joke. Then, he excused himself to use an adjoining bathroom. Rogers knew exactly what to do. Breaking that he does was just about up, he leaped into the toilet and made his case standing over a startled but temporarily immobilized prime minister.

That kind of aggressive, borderline-as-for-as saucer attitude has marked Rogers' career almost from the corporate world onward. He has successfully lived out the dream advised by his late mother, Velma: "Don't hang your head against a brick wall. Go over it, under it, around it. Anything but through it."

Ted Rogers occasionally slows down enough to be called a workaholic, but most of the time he realizes that strategy seems comically inadequate. His work habits more clearly resemble the schedule of one of those dentists that used to drive water pumps in tropical palm colonies as never stops. "My idea of slowing down is putting a tin in my car," he once told me—and perked up when I mentioned that Ted had new fax machines for use on airplanes. "They would soon be available. Now, Rogers has a tin in both his car and his house."

Rogers is a divorcee, says Robin Kornblau, president of the Toronto-Dominion Bank, where Rogers does most of his banking, once confessed that Rogers had burned out 14 credit officers in the past 30 years. Officers finally had to vent his business around several banks, when his business—not just his salesclerks—came dangerously close to burning out.

Rogers' desperation to succeed long past the point when the measure of his impressive accomplishments has become self-belief is based on his fear of dying before he can do enough and more than his father never had the bling to complete. Ted Rogers' own tally of achievements is measured not in toll

Rogers sometimes slows down enough to be a workaholic



From top: Rogers with his mother, Velma; with Robert Stanfield and Brian Mulroney; with Lucinda on his wedding day; his father's previous death means Rogers to do everything—and more

lure—in company has yet to show any significant profit—but under the "Tilshaw" column. "His motto that he'll never be satisfied because there will always be doubters yet to be convinced that he can go on doing the impossible, like taking over a profitable publishing house that had at least twice his credit lines available for its self-interest but didn't use them."

A disturbing part of Rogers' personal philosophy is that he treats illness not as a warning sign to slow down but as an annoying distraction. When he was in the hospital in the early 1980s, his pal and chief adviser, Phil Lind, recalls seeing a group of company executives gathered around Rogers' bed, doing in discussion on a future project, while their boss still had his eyes bandaged. (The vision in his right eye remained about 30 per cent.) When Rogers suffered a coronary aneurysm several years ago, he was back at work long before doctors thought it was, and his 1992 quadruple bypass surgery drove the medical staff at the Mayo Clinic in Boston to distraction. He was dictating letters before the anesthesiologist had properly worn off.

It's an accident that many of Rogers' most dramatic transactions have been aimed at plunking his considerable estate. (Five of his heirs, son Edward, 36, and daughter Lisa, 36, are now active in the cable industry with Edward in Philadelpha's working for Comcast Cellular and Lisa active in Rogers Cable management.) The firm scored a handsome \$75-million profit on the Maclean Hunter deal, all from the stock he had bought just before making the buy-out offer, and his company recently purchased Ted's preferred shares in Rogers Communications for a cash payment of \$425 million. Even after that transaction, his personal equity stake in the company was still worth about \$100 million dollars.

He lives up to his motto. A few years ago, when Rogers decided that he wanted a trainee court near his stone mansion on posh Frybrook Road in Toronto's exclusive Forest Hill district, he purchased the house next door (belonging to Neil McKelton, former chairman of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce) and tore most of it down to make room for the courts. "What if Ted decides to take up golf?" was the buzz around his estate before the time.

Although it has been his father, Edward Samuel Rogers, who gets most of the attention, his other ancestors were equally interesting—and just as rebellious. John Rogers, a cousin of Old St. Paul's in London, was



Lucinda and Ted at home with dogs Brady (left) and Rogers' refusal to let anyone live without

burned at the stake in 1555, England's first Protestant martyr, of Queen Mary's reign. Seventy years later, Thomas Rogers, in another life for religious freedom, left for the New World aboard the Mayflower. In the Seven Years War, Robert Rogers led the famed band of irregulars known as Rogers Rangers, the subject of several novels and films. It wasn't until 1803 that a Rogers (Clint, a Quaker seeking more religious freedom, came to Canada and settled in York County, now Toronto.

Rogers' father, born in 1900, was the first amateur radio operator in Canada to successfully transmit a signal across the Atlantic Ocean and he later invented the radio tube that made it possible to build a receiving system, doing away with bulky and re-

propane batteries. He founded Rogers Maritime Corp. in the mid-1930s to manufacture them and eventually upgraded his ham operation into a commercial station for the call letters CRRP for Canada's First Rogers Broadcasting, which grew to command Canada's largest radio network. As early as 1934, the elder Rogers was granted the first license to broadcast experimental television, but he died eight years later from overwork (died a bloody death) at age 38, when Ted was only 5. He died leaving the family \$500,000 in poor shape and the Rogers family lost control of CRRP. Even as a boy, Rogers bought shares in Standard Broadcasting, parent of CTR.

Ted Rogers subsequently attended Upper Canada College, being chastised as school-

while his sports record was brought around during school so he could drive himself home at the end of the day. In 1963, he married Lucinda to Anne Robinson, daughter of Lord Mountbatten, a former British MP who had served as governor of Bermuda.

Three years earlier, Rogers had bought all the shares in CRRP for \$85,000. The top 340-watt Toronto radio station pioneered the new frequency modulation sound at a time when only five per cent of Toronto homes had FM receivers. By 1967, he was in the cable TV business, quickly expanding beyond his original Toronto system. In the 1970s, he bought out two competitors—Canadian Cablevision and Premier Cablevision—both larger than his own systems, and eventually moved into the United States. By 1980, he had taken over UAColumbus Cablevision to become the world's largest cable operator, with more than two million subscribers.

Each of Rogers' business expansions has been blessed by a new technological "wave" starting with FM radio and continuing through to cable TV and cellular telephones, as industry 1980 which he played with Cnet so far ahead of his time that at first his own board of directors refused to accept the idea. Then, he decided to make the country's most entrenched monopoly—Bell Canada—by joining with Canadian Pacific Ltd. at Montreal to create United Communications Inc., which has succeeded in reducing dramatically Bell's long-distance business. So inspired by Bell's reticence regarding retention of his monopoly, he once described a speech by former Bell chairman Jean de Grandpré as sounding like Adolf Hitler's Mein Kampf.

Rogers' latest move, among the Maclean Hunter purchase in his entry point to build up Canada's main electronic highway, is the most daring and the biggest of his many ventures. As far back in 1980, Rogers was talking to the about his cable network "eventually" linking east and west through a 7,800-km electronic pipeline. Only in this way can we compete against satellite television and maintain a strong Canadian presence.

If it is a true visionary, as his business class, it's partly because Rogers won't allow financial constraints to limit his ambitions. For a while, cable TV was just a business that the world as big Street was even before he could let his money in. He was the first to Rogers Communications has posted profits in only three of the past 10 years. He was also remembering in over-the-top ventures, trading equity for debt, squandering assets instead of dividends. (The company has paid no dividends since 1979.)

The enduring mystery of the success is why Maclean Hunter didn't let for Rogers, instead of the other way round. "They're bigger than me," Rogers said, when he still didn't know which way the deal would go. "It'd certainly could have gone the other way because they're bigger than me. I'm not a genius. I'm just a guy. But they're not like me." In Ted Rogers' world, that's a quality that has never been in short supply.

The colone's legacy

A takeover marks the end of an era—and a personal vision

BY DEIRDRE MCMURRY

The name of the company tells as much about its past as it does about its present.

After 106 years, Madson Hunter Ltd still reflects the personal vision and the values of its founder, Col. John Bayne Madson, and his protégé, Horace Thelander Hunter. Both the sons of Presbyterian Scots, the two men shared a disciplined and deliberate approach to business. They carefully reinvested the profits of the Madson Publishing Co., steadily expanding its publishing and printing operations without capital from outside investors. Madson was convinced that such financial—and, perhaps, independence—was imperative for the editorial quality of his publications. Similarly, from the first issue of his first publication, *The Canadian Gracer*, in 1897, Madson insisted on integrating printing into his company as a means of limiting its exposure to variable operating costs. With relatively few exceptions, Madson Hunter has adhered to this policy, maintaining a tight rein on an experienced strategic director by owning a majority interest in most of its ventures. Still, a strong family atmosphere suggested that corporate philosophy at some self-discipline, and Madson, whose only child died at 18, frequently referred to his employees as "my boys and girls." His grandchildren, however, had strict limits. On Fridays, his chauffeur would deliver him to his company's Toronto office—along with a load of his personal and eggs from his farm—so he'd be "in his children's."

Since his death in 1958, Col. Madson's hands-on, paternalistic management style has been largely eroded by the size and complexity of Madson Hunter's diverse fledgling operations. But the corporate culture of family and personal and proud independence remains strong among the company's 12,000 employees. Until Rogers Communications Inc. succeeded in its unsolicited takeover bid last week, Madson Hunter—unlike most Canadian companies—had never had an outside, controlling shareholder or a major foreign investor. In fact, until 1985, when the first shares of Madson Hunter were traded on



MI Toronto headquarters in the 1950s; Madson and Hunter in 1947 (right) sit on

the Toronto Stock Exchange, the company was exclusively in the hands of longtime employees and their families.

intent on preserving his company's independence, Madson carefully selected and groomed two successors, Hunter and Victor Tyrrell, and gradually passed the ownership of it on to them. In 1967, the Hunter name was added to meet accurately reflect the company's new ownership. When Horace Hunter's son Donald was diagnosed with brain cancer in 1975, he quickly sold his 51-per-cent stake in Madson Hunter back to the company to ensure that it would remain in the "family hands" and out of reach of other outside investors.

From its modest start in commercial publishing, handicapped with \$2,046 of Madson's savings, Madson Hunter began to diversify its assets early on, eventually becoming a mature communications conglomerate with revenues of \$1.74 billion in 1993. In 2000, the colonial son and member of the Canadian militia acquired his first overseas acquisition, a digest that was called *Ray Mac's Magazine*. *The Crown of*



the World's Magazine *Reprinted for King Philip*. By 1911, he had reinvented himself as Madson's, and began to commission original news articles and fiction, he continued to edit them personally for nine years after. When Madson's, by then a monthly newsmagazine, ran into dire financial trouble in the 1970s—and even the Madson Hunter-based conglomerate despaired at the prospect—the publication was saved by chairman Donald Hunter's stubborn insistence that the company's flagship magazine must flourish.

In 1967, Madson acquired *The Associated Press*, a weekly commercial newspaper, which was edited for 17 years by Thorpe Chalmers. Chalmers later went on to be co-owner president in 1982, then chairman and finally honorary chairman of Madson Hunter. On a much broader stage, he was involved in a generous cultural education program and was an active supporter of the Canadian Olympic Committee, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Stratford Festival. But while Horace Hunter, who had joined Madson Publishing as an advertising sales representative for Madson's & Madson, left behind a healthy and dedicated team working under the tone of an overall, an supervisor relieved of all responsibility for the work. Chalmers's style was closer to that of Col. Madson. Even from his executive office, Chalmers was frequently unable to conceive the printer's chronic temptation to improve upon—and occasionally reject—the copy of others.

Despite his strong aversion to the medium of print, Chalmers unfurled much of Madson Hunter's crucial diversification through the 1950s and 1960s. In 1961, Madson Hunter edged into the electronic age, acquiring radio stations in Ontario, Alberta, New Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Each of the divisions for that corporate departure came from Donald Campbell, a chemical and economic who had joined Madson Hunter as its controller in 1957. Through the 1960s, Campbell, son Madson Hunter's chairman, served as executive vice-president, broadening his base.

In 1967, three years before he became president of Madson Hunter, Campbell led the company into the emerging field of cable television. He oversaw the purchase of Grapich, Ont.-based Nightwatcher Television Ltd. from entrepreneur Frederick McIntyre, and created a specialized unit for subsequent cable acquisitions in Canada and the United States. McIntyre became, in 1977, the first president of Madson Hunter to come from outside the company's tradition of "core" publishing base. He was succeeded by Harold Osborne, a chemical accountant for Toronto, who became Madson Hunter's president and chief operating officer in 1994 and chief executive officer in 1996.

But last week, as Ted Rogers' bid for Madson Hunter finally won management's blessing, it became inevitable that a very different vision from that of Madson and Hunter would drive the company's next 100 years. □

The rules of the game

In the end, no corporate mind would have been able to really win a game of hide-and-seek with one well-armed shareholder and only a token amount of throwing about in the underbrush. Ted Rogers made a clean kill of his quarry, Madson Hunter Ltd. From the outset—even though his company generates considerably less revenue and so profit—Rogers had the advantage of knowing precisely what he wanted from Madson Hunter and a clear plan of achieving it. Armed with his real vision of the future, Rogers never worried on acquiring Madson Hunter's cable assets, despite the fact that they came with an army of publishing, printing and broadcast properties for which he clearly has limited use. It is rather like killing an elephant for its tusks.

Then, of course, around to the story of how Ted Rogers bagged mighty Madson Hunter with a few well-placed, well-timed, well-planned and sharp pencils who assembled their assets with precision and care. It is a story of corporate strategy and economic tactics of managers who do not shy away from the prescribed path of the pool for the prescribed period of time, digesting each additional acquisition before moving back into the water. The animal is about playing the game of Chess or checkers.

Initially, Madson Hunter was largely disinterested in playing by the rules, but adhering to the established conventions of sound business practice. And on almost every point, it is at the opposite end of the spectrum from Rogers Communications. In contrast to Rogers, Madson Hunter has scrupulously avoided heavy debt for financing. Unlike Rogers, who has not paid a common share dividend since 1982, Madson Hunter has religiously rewarded its shareholders with a regular annual payout. Furthermore, Madson Hunter has a record of consistent—if sometimes spectacular—profitability. In the past



BY DEIRDRE MCMURRY

18 years, Rogers Communications has paid a profit only three times.

Although Madson Hunter, like Rogers, once had a family-owned block of stock—the 51-per-cent interest controlled by Horace Hunter's descendants—those shares were sold multiple times. And when the Hunter family disposed of its coveted stake in 1976, they transferred it back to the company in a quiet, widely way at the current market price rather than forcing a buying spree to maximize their financial return. Rogers, on the other hand, controls 90 per cent of his company through multiple voting shares, which deliberately prevents outsiders from loosening his grip on the company.

Admittedly, Madson Hunter recently suffered some bad breaks in the rules department. The federal budget of Feb. 28 already closed a tax loophole, known as the "tax shelter" account, which allowed companies to "hide" their profits in "tax shelters," limiting its management's ability to maneuver. The same week, a seven-per-cent cut in its sales rates distributed the value of Madson Hunter's assets there. Although regulatory approval is pending, Madson Hunter has been expected to exchange his offer of \$17.50 a share.

Ultimately, however, it was Madson Hunter's unmatched corporate culture of restraint and discipline that made it so valuable—and so utterly unshakable—in a market where current tastes favor less focused companies that offer the potential for rapid growth. The company's customer size and diverse holdings also made it difficult for Madson Hunter to react swiftly in self-defense against a determined and experienced hunter. When it became painfully obvious that they were following outdated policies, Madson Hunter's management was forced to change its strategy. And when Ted Rogers finally cornered his prey last week, company executives conceded his victory with gracious optimism. They didn't win, but Col. John Madson and Horace Hunter would probably have been proud of how they played the game.



Col. Madson in the uniform of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

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A DREAM COME TRUE

Wayne Gretzky closes in on Gordie Howe's sacred goal-scoring record

Gordie Howe's National Hockey League goal-scoring record was supposed to be one of these career achievements that no one else could touch. Sports experts believed it to be the most epic long jump at the 1968 Summer Olympics, an astounding effort—29 feet, 2 1/2 inches—that was nearly two feet farther than the previous record. Howe, a strapping right winger from Flint, Mich., accomplished something equally remarkable. His 601 goals in 26 seasons made the previous record of 544, set by Maurice "Rocket" Richard, seem like an afterthought. Profile marquee names such as Guy Lafleur and Marcel Dionne let down their statistics in the post-expansion NHL, but still

left short. And why not? A player would have to average 50 goals for 16 seasons just to get close. But just as Bennett's jump was eclipsed in 1961, Howe's NHL preeminence is finally coming to an end. This week, or very soon after, Wayne Gretzky of the Los Angeles Kings will likely strip Howe, his beloved idol, of one of his most cherished possessions. "Nobody, especially me, dreamed I'd be this close to breaking Gordie's record," Gretzky said last week.

The Great One's modesty aside, Howe's record has probably been in jeopardy since Gretzky first laced up a pair of skates. As a scrappy 19-year-old in Portland, Ore., Gretzky scored 370 goals in 68 A-maj games, 228 more than his nearest competitor. He turned pro in 1976 at age 17 with the now-defunct World Hockey Association, scoring 46 goals that season. A year later, in his Edmonton Oilers

years were drafted into the NHL, and he became an instant sensation, tying Dionne for the scoring title. Long-standing NHL vicariously began to tremble. The single-season record for goals was 76, set by Phil Esposito in 1970-71. Gretzky scored 92 in 1981-1982. The record for assists in one season was 105, by Bobby Orr in 1976-1977. Gretzky drew 945 in 1985-1986. In his 19th season, Gretzky overtook the supposedly unassailable 516 career points record of 1,350 that had taken Howe 26 years to reach.

Despite Gretzky's excellent railroader, he led the league's career points standings and his recent signing of a record three-year, \$24.5 million contract, the Great One is noticeably plain. The



DAVID J. PHILLIPS

Gretzky scoring to take overall points lead in 1982: another prolific machine

Kings, Stanley Cup finalists last season, have played poorly this year and are in danger of missing the playoffs. Gretzky now owns the four Stanley Cups he won with the mighty Oilers of the 1980s, and when he was sold to the Kings in 1988, he vowed to break a Cup to the west coast. But time for him and the ailing Kings is running out. His haters to lose, and this season it shows. Even his comments about breaking the record are laced with disappointment. "I've been held scoreless in a recent game in Boston, he acknowledged that he was out of the game with a "I want to score as badly as they want me to," he said, referring to the gang of reporters following him around. "We can all go home."

Although the record chase has renewed debate over who is the best, Howe and Gretzky claim that their records should not be compared. Answer why things, Howe insists that career scoring records should include goals from his time in the WHA in the 1970s. Gretzky, meanwhile, insists his totals should be marked with an asterisk because the two performed in such different eras. Howe played most of his career before the television set, exposed in 1967. In those days, the game was dominated by a conservative, defensive-minded philosophy. Gretzky's Oilers, the most potent offensive force in league history, put up the score on senior lines in a league dazed by expansion. "You are talking about the two greatest players who ever lived," said Cliff Fletcher, president of the Toronto Maple Leafs, who saw both stars in their prime. "But they played in such different circumstances that it would be impossible to fairly compare them."

STILL MR. HOCKEY

I was going in behind the Detroit net, that game, and I threw the puck out on our side and I was watching it as I came around the other side and Gordie came across and gave me—this was not my chance—a good shot. Someone said not later. I don't know whether it was true, that he had read that Gordie had said he just wanted to let me know he was still around.

—Boston Bruins defenseman Bobby Orr, writing in *Maclean's* in 1971

Everybody has a Gordie Howe story. Some are even true. Like how his on-ice career almost ended in 1950, when the boy from Flint, Mich., was in his fourth NHL season. During a playoff game, Toronto Maple Leafs captain Tord Kennedy checked Howe, then a 21-year-old Detroit right-winger, into the boards. Howe's skull was fractured, many feared he would never play hockey again. But he returned the next season—and led the league in goals. Then, there's a story Howe told himself while in 1970, when he was playing with the World Hockey Association's New England Whalers, he was put on the score line as a precursor 17-year-old—Wayne Gretzky—during a WHA off-season game against the Seattle SeaWolves, now 66 and living in Thousand City, Mich., remembers that one Russian forward was giving the young Gretzky physical ground. "I told Wayne to lead the guy over to me and get out of the way," recalls Howe. Gretzky did his bit—land Howe, then 50, on his 20th birthday—then to me, checking the limited to three.

Gordie Howe is still around—and still tough. But at Gretzky's recent NHL goal-scoring record, Howe wasn't altogether comfortable with the hype. For one thing, Howe points out that the 50 goals he scored in the NHL (with the Red Wings from 1946 to 1971 and with the Hartford Whalers in 1979-1980) do not tell the whole story: he scored 174 more while playing in the WHA from 1973 to 1975. "We kill you record in 1975," says Howe. But he adds, with typical humility, "And Wayne's 661 is not his 661—he had a lot of great days in Edmonton." Gretzky had 46 goals with the Oilers when they were part of the WHA.

Howe drafted a Los Angeles Kings station in accepting the best while Gretzky scores his 99th mark. That creates popular speculation that he means a grudge. In 1961, Howe and other veterans made the league—successfully, it turned out—for misrepresentation \$27 million from their pension fund. Howe, who after 26 seasons with the NHL draws an annual pension of about \$15,000, says he was "a bit disappointed" that Gretzky did not speak out in

support of the veterans. But that, he adds, has nothing to do with his decision not to tug along on the record watch. "I told them, time permitting," he says. "But I've just been too busy." Howe has a better schedule, including the North American charity tour that he began last year. And his admiration for the Great One is clearly unfettered. "I'm right behind him," Howe says. "Wayne's a great kid, and he's been great for hockey."

What has never been quantified is Howe's dedication to the game. And perhaps that is his most important and enduring accomplishment. True story: 1975, Houston, and a well-timed Canadian kid was practicing with a



Howe hasn't it up with a young Gretzky. "Wayne's a great kid!"

batch of other name-and-18-year-olds—northers transplants straggled in hockey culture, southern kids just trying to figure out the game was all about. Then, unannounced, Mr. Hockey, No. 9, who at 45 had just signed with the Edmonton Oilers, walked into the jersey-bait arena. Swooshers and grins, he proceeded to shake hands with every one of those powers.

For at least one of those kids—poor little—the rest of hockey has been with the years. For Gordie Howe, it never has.

JOE CHIDLEY

FACING OFF			
GRETZKY	Achievements	HOWE	
2	Age at which each began skating	5	
46/1	WHA goals/No. of seasons played	174/6	
798/15	NHL goals/No. of seasons played	801/26	
110	NHL playoff goals	68	
4	Stanley Cup wins	4	
9	No. of times NHL's most valuable player	6	
9	No. of years as top NHL scorer	6	

*As of March 11

Backpack

A monthly report on personal health, life and leisure

The prostate debate

Last year, Kazimierz Szepiński was faced with a decision that most men would rather not contemplate. Diagnosed as having cancer of the prostate, he was told by his doctor that he had two choices. The safest Cape Breton option would be to opt for radical treatment that at least a good prospect of curing his cancer. Or he could have the tumor surgically removed, which would make a recurrence of cancer even less likely. Both procedures carried the risk of impotence, but the likelihood was far greater with surgery. Despite that, Szepiński, now 60, chose the operation. And he is convinced he made the right choice. "I'd had my fill of sex and enjoyed it," says Szepiński, who lives in Bedford, N.S., with his wife, Louise. "But I didn't want to live with cancer in my body."

These days, a growing number of North American men face similar tough choices. And the breast cancer among women, prostate cancer is taking on a higher public profile. Maurício Frank Zappa died of it, as did actor Don Amend and Telly Savalas. In fact, prostate cancer is the second most deadly form of cancer (after lung cancer) among North American men, killing an estimated 35,000 Canadian and about 55,000 American men last year. The good news is that improved diagnostic techniques at low costs to spot the disease earlier, that the result is a better medical outcome, many physicians argue that two-way patients in their 50s and 70s are undergoing radical prostatectomies—surgical removal of the prostate—without any proven medical benefit. "I think maybe there's a bit out of control," says Dr. David Bell, who teaches urology at McGill University in Montreal. "Some doctors are going to patients where tumors in the long run wouldn't affect their lifespan."



Prostate surgery: Szepiński (below); Zappa (opposite) the second most deadly cancer

Until recently, the prostate gland was a much-overlooked part of the male anatomy. Most cases probably still have only a tiny idea about its location and function. A walnut-sized gland located just below the bladder, the prostate makes the fluid used to transport sperm. The gland can be the site of several ailments, including benign prostate hyperplasia, which can cause problems in urinating. Though benign, prostate hyperplasia is usually not life-threatening; surgery is often required to relieve the blockage.

Prostatic cancer is a far more serious disease if undetected in its early stages. It can spread to the bones—including the spine—causing a slow and painful death. Despite that, prostate cancer has traditionally received little attention because in its early stages it is difficult to detect by medical examination, and because it often develops slowly, killing men who are near the end of their normal lifespan. But in the early 2000s, drug companies began marketing a simple blood test—the

prostate-specific antigen, or PSA, test—that raises prostate cancer much earlier in doctors. Once it is detected, doctors can initiate life-saving measures before the disease can gain a foothold.

Many doctors now routinely advocate the test, and more and more men are demanding it. As a result, more cases of prostate cancer are being detected and more prostate cancer victims are opting for surgical removal of the prostate—despite the accompanying risks of incontinence and impotence. In the United States, the number of radical prostatectomies rose sharply to 36,131 operations in 1997 from 7,628 in 1987—a 453 per cent increase. In Canada, the number of radical prostatectomies jumped from 417 in 1996 to 1,344 in 2000—a 219 per cent increase.

Some doctors are uneasy about the number of prostatectomies being performed—and about routine PSA screening. The reason: prostate cancer usually strikes men over 50, and men often develop so slowly that there is a good chance the victim will die of something else before the cancer becomes a significant health risk. In fact, studies have shown that 36 per cent of all men over 50 have some degree of cancer in their prostate gland. Yet only one in 30 of these men will die of the disease. "I think the issue of screening is murky," says Dr. Jan Tannock, chief of medicine at Toronto's Princess Margaret Hospital. "In many cases, PSA testing will turn up a small cancer. Then, there will be a lot of agonizing over what treatment is appropriate, even though in many cases the patient will never have a problem with prostate cancer because he will die of something else." Typically, a man in



their 60s or undergoing radiation therapy during the course of the disease. Since the PSA test was first introduced in 1981, about 15 per cent of the 757 men with low-grade prostate cancer who were enrolled—had not died of prostate cancer. "The message of my study," Chodak said, "is that, for some men, watchful waiting is a reasonable alternative to surgery or radiation."

The dilemma that faces physicians is how to decide when to recommend surgery—and when to propose watchful not watching. "Take the case of a 60-year-old man with localized prostate cancer: why may also have diabetes or a heart condition," says Bell. "I can treat his cancer, but should I? How do you decide?" Bell hopes that a bias for the kind of decision will emerge from a computer profile that he and Dr. Jerry Gaziano are trying to develop by analyzing the records of about 600 prostate patients treated since 1977 at Ontario's Victoria Hospital. McGill's Hospital also has a similar study, but a key question of whether PSA testing saves lives, researchers at the U.S. National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., have launched a 10-year study to determine whether men whose prostate cancers are spotted early have a better survival rate than men who never have a PSA test.

While debate swirls around the issue of PSA testing and prostate surgery, some researchers are concentrating on whether any of prostate treatment: dealing with cancer once it has spread beyond the prostate. When that happens, removal of the prostate is pointless and doctors turn to radiation and hormone treatment. The hormonal approach is often effective because it is the

The operation carries the risk of impotence

his skin with a slow-growing prostate cancer may die of heart disease. But as North American men live longer, the number of prostate cancer deaths is increasing as well.

The debate has left doctors divided over the wisdom of ordering routine PSA tests for men over 50. "We only use the test if a patient has symptoms pointing to prostate disease," says Dr. John Trethowan, director of the Toronto Hospital's Prostate Centre. "We don't advocate mass screening." Other doctors, while sharing some of the concerns about the growing number of prostatectomies, defend widespread PSA testing as a way to catch the disease in its early stages. "In the case of nascent cancers in the 50-to-69 age group, seriously with PSA and rectal exams," says Dr. Larry Goldenberg, director of the University of British Columbia Prostate Clinic in Vancouver. "I think we should do anything we can that will save men from the agony of dying from prostate cancer."

Another school of thought suggests that in some cases of prostate cancer the best policy may be to do nothing. "Watchful waiting" is recommended by some doctors in cases involving small tumors that have not spread beyond the prostate—and which might take years to develop to a life-threatening level. After analyzing the results of an earlier study involving men with prostate cancer, Dr. Gerald Huggins, director of the Prostate Cancer Clinic at New Memorial Hospital, concluded that it is often unnecessary to use surgery in cases involving low-aggressive tumors. At the outset, some of the men in the studies had their prostate removed, though a small number had

male hormone testosterone that stimulates the growth of most prostate cancers. Because the studies are the cause source of testosterone, the surgical solution is controversial—in operation, that surgery men find psychologically devastating. Instead, a drug called an LHRH agonist is often used to shut down production of testosterone and shrink the cancer. The snag is that the prostate adapts and within about two years learns to live without testosterone.

A group of Vancouver researchers say that there may be a way of prolonging the effectiveness of testosterone-depleting drugs by giving the drugs to patients intermittently, rather than continuously. By starting, stopping and restarting the treatment at roughly eight-month intervals, says Dr. Martin Gleason, an assistant professor of surgery at the University of British Columbia, you can delay the cancer's adaptation to testosterone depletion. So far, tests of the intermittent therapy in mice and a small number of human subjects have shown encouraging results.

While researchers seek better ways of treating prostate cancer, victims of the disease are turning to each other for mutual support. In 1996, an organization launched in the United States four years ago, now has branches in about a dozen Canadian cities. Parts Omega, a self-help group, has chapters in Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto, and Ottawa. According to Omega, 94 out of 125 prostate cancer victims, as well as relatives and friends, meet once a month in Vancouver to learn about the latest developments in treatment—and to share their pain. "It's such a devastating thing for a man," says Omega. "It's so important to be able to talk to others, to ask questions and to see other men who have the disease and are living with it." By the time Omega's own cancer was diagnosed two years ago, it had spread beyond the prostate. He is now being treated with a 10-day agonist. "I've known them a little bit in bars, and you just hope that it stays under control," says Omega. "I live in hope."

Prostate problems

What to watch for:

- More frequent urination.
- Slower urine stream or difficulty in urinating.
- Bloody urine.
- Chronic lower back pain.

The first three symptoms could point to either benign enlargement of the prostate—a non-life-threatening condition that might require surgery—or prostate cancer. Lower back pain can have many causes, one of which is metastatic disease behind advanced prostate cancer. Men who experience any of the symptoms should see a doctor.

MARK NIKOLLS

Backpack Calendar

A spring season of dog derbies and whale festivals, ice races, car chases and theatre games

BRITISH COLUMBIA

March 24-April 4 *Whale Festival*, Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, Tofino and Uclulet. Hikers can watch the annual migration of nearly 10,000 Pacific Grey whales north to their summer feeding waters.

March 26-April 28 *Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company*, Interactive Theatre director Neil Murray stages *Imagined* (adaptation of A. Scott Howe).

ALBERTA

March 26-April 17 *Medicine Spring Festival*, Edmonton. The Provincial Museum of Alberta recreates a 14th-century town for visitors to see and participate in medieval crafts, games and dancing.

March 26-April 2 *Canadian Mural Carling Championships*, Leduc. Painters from across Canada compete in the 1994 finals.

SASKATCHEWAN

March 25-29 *HomeTown Indoor Rodeo*, Moose Jaw. Cowboys from the three Prairie provinces and the northern Canadian States ride broncos and bulls, rope calves and steers and compete in barrel races at the Golden Mile Arena.

March 26-27 *GardenSense*, Saskatoon. A horticultural show at the Powerland Exhibition Centre featuring everything for the backyard, from legumes to lawns. University of Saskatchewan experts will be available to answer questions.

MANITOBA

March 19-20 *Planes in Transit Show*, Winnipeg. The Western Canada Aviation Museum displays vintage and modern aircraft, engines and other artifacts, along with model railroads.

March 26-April 2 *Bayl's Manitoba Winter Fair*, Brandon. Light and heavy horse dog shows, agricultural competitions and sales at the Kinsmen Centre.

Tax breaks

With the May 2 deadline for filing income tax returns on the horizon, taxpayers are urged to report for advice on how to lighten the burden, Therpe.

1. File your return on time to avoid penalties and interest on any tax owing.
2. Use the T1 General Tax Form, the only one that lists all deductions and credits.
3. If your child attends summer camp or boarding school, you can claim up to \$150 a week as a child-care expense.
4. Hire a tax return preparer. Even if their income from paper routes, collecting and the like is not taxable, it can create room for minor deductions up to seven years later.
5. Be sure to claim eligible deductions for



safety-deposit boxes, union dues and professional fees.

6. A wide range of health-care costs can be claimed, including out-of-pocket health insurance, contact lenses and prescription eye glasses.
7. Students can claim expenses incurred in moving to a postsecondary institution

write to Revenue Canada and ask for an extension.

11. Legal costs are deductible if you lost a job and required a lawyer to claim unpaid salary and severance pay.
12. People with severe mental or physical impairments, including the elderly, may be eligible for a disability tax credit.

ONTARIO

March 24-29 *Canadian Improv Games*, Ottawa. Nearly 200 high school students from across Canada compete at the National Arts Centre to see which team is fastest on its feet in improvisational theater games.

March 26-27 *April 1-3* *Prosperity/Waterford Festival*, Brighton. Prosperity Provincial Park, 90 minutes east of Toronto off Highway 401, offers bird-watchers a chance to view as many as 10,000 ducks, geese and swans as they migrate north.

March 30-May 6 *Toronto Zoo*, Toronto. The 19th anniversary revival of *White Rabbit* Gap, the comedy that established Jafar Thompson as one of Canada's major playwrights.

QUEBEC

March 18-20 *Freestyle Ski Nationals*, Lac Beauport. More than 30 of Canada's top freestyle skiers, including the recently returned Olympic team, compete for a place on next year's national team.

March 3-May 12 *Musical Museum of Fine Arts*. A collection of New York City photographer Jean LaFontaine's celebrity portraits from 1970 to 1995. From Allen Ginsberg to Mick Jagger.

NEW BRUNSWICK

March 24-27 *Canadian short-track speed skating championships*, Fredericton. Skaters aged 10 and up from across Canada take to the short-track oval at the Silver Centre, University of New Brunswick.

April 7-19 *Saison de L'Inne*, Edmoudeston. Visitors to the north's most book fair at the Edmoudeston Convention Centre can meet authors and hear them read from their latest works.

NOVA SCOTIA

March 18-20 *Canadian Univers-*

more than 40 km from home.

8. Consider claiming up to \$4,000 of your spouse's, child's or grandchild's tuition fees and education tax credits.

9. You can deduct the interest paid to buy Canada Savings Bonds through your company's payroll deduction program.

10. If you registered to elect a deduction on an earlier tax return, write to Revenue Canada and ask for an extension.



■ Caking maple syrup the traditional way: the sap is flowing

Sampling the sugar

Over the next few weeks, the Eastern Woodland canopy stretching from the Atlantic to southwestern Manitoba will provide an ideal setting for family outings. Warm days and freezing nights trigger the flow of sap in sugar maple trees. That means it's time to begin "sugaring off"—tapping mature trees. The sap is collected at a sugar shack where it settles in two barrels—and time-consuming—precipitates residue off the syrup and sugar. It can take up to 40 gallons of sap to produce a gallon of syrup.

The maple tree was the only source of sugar for many early Canadians. Now, a trip to the sugar bush provides an informative and entertaining link to Canada's past. Recognizing that, a number of communities stage sugaring-off festivals. Visitors can learn the techniques of syrup production—whether aboriginal, pioneer or modern—and

sample maple taffy and other treats. A partial listing of the many maple syrup festivals in Canada over the next month:

Manitoba St. Pierre-Jolys, April 13-17; **Ontario** Kennerly (Kennerly Centre for Conservation), March 5-April 30; **Pelham**, March 17-18, **Arveston**, March 19-20; **Smiths Falls**, March 24-April 25; **Waford**, March 25; **Pewee**, March 25-27; **Sarnia**, March 26-27; **Windsor**, March 26-April 3; **Windsor** (Purple Valley), April 2; **Windsor**, April 2; **Port Hope** (Glenora Forest Centre), April 2-3; **Richards Landing**, April 2-10; **Belmont**, April 7-8, **Clare**, April 9; **Quebec**: **Saint-Georges**, March 17-27; **Montreal** *Bleau-Vert* (Jardins), Feb. 17-March 27; **Novi Scottie** *Dorchester* (Jardins Cove Park), March 27; **New Brunswick**: **Prince William** (King's Landing), March 28-28.

by *Barbador* Championships: **Halifax**. The Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union holds its men's league final at the Halifax Metro Centre.

April 6-June 12 *Renewable Resources*, Halifax. Artists from the Nova Scotia Centre for Craft and Design work with used materials to create new art.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

March 6-April 24 *Combination Centre Art Gallery and Museum*, Charlottetown. A survey of work by Newfoundland and artist Neil Arnes: Creates combining photography and natural materials such as sticks and stones.

NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR

April 13-May 14 *Bay St. George* art exhibition, St. John's. Local artists show off their latest creations.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

March 25-29 *Canadian Championship Dog Derby*, Yellowknife. Members from seven North American compete at the 38th annual raceway of the 240 km race on Grosi Snow Lake.

YUKON

April 16-17 *Barrow 27* Ice Race, Barrow, Alaska. A 45-km international car race around Inupiat Island in Klutse Lake—weather permitting. Includes a special "powder-puff" division for women racers.

NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions:

MOVIES

Love and Human Remains Danya Anand's first Anglo movie, based on Brad Fraser's play about gay sex and serial murder.

House of the Spirits Meryl Streep, Glenn Close and Jeremy Irons as conjuring the magic realism of Isabel Allende's novel.

Four Weddings and a Funeral A romantic comedy with England's Hugh Grant, who is emerging as the new Cary Grant.

Bad Girls A "teen Young Guns" western in which Gena Rowlands tries to draw.

Jimmy Hollywood Barry Levinson directs Joe Pesci and Christian Slater playing actors.



VIDEO

Penelope My Conscience (GPP Video). The leech saga of two Peeping Grosse stories, based on two best foreign-language film Oscar.

Mr. Boogey (Paramount). Most Peeping Grosse films, directed by David Cronenberg.

Basel and Constantin (Jovian). A witty and violent tale of growing up and partying down, in the 1970s.

What's Love Got to Do with It (Touchstone). Angela Basset and Laurence Fishburne staged Oscar nominations for his True Summer tape.

The Long Day's Journey (Milestone). A hearing impaired from Robert's Tenor Daves.

BOOKS

A Touch of Pinkie L.H. Wright, (Doubleday). The sword-wielding writer with his engaging British Columbia's Sunshine Coast with her evocative rock staff.

Warrior's Secret: Confronting Child Sexual Abuse in Canada Judy Bied, (Random House of Canada). A Toronto journalist chronicles a painful journey.

The Day After Tomorrow Alan Felson, (Little Brown). This much-loved first fiction inspired a screenplay.

157 million whom?

Transit by Night: A Memoir of the Strides Douglas Fairbank (Lester Publishing). A Canadian author recalls growing up in the Age of Aquarius.

The Conscience's Children: Portrait of a Family Divided Denise Chong, (Viking Penguin Canada). A Chinese-Canadian discusses that her grandmother was a woman's conscience.

AUDIO

I Can See Your House from Here Pat Mothers, John Soles (Blue Moon). A collaboration between leading jazz guitarists.

Endless *Buscetta* (Capitol 94-60 Jazz Music). One of Canada's most successful alternative rock acts adopts a tougher sound.

Longing for Their Hearts Bonnie Raitt (Jive Music Canada). A new collection from the veteran singer-songwriter who peaked up at the 1985 and 1992 Grammy Awards.

Class *Georgina* Choir of the Monks of the Monastery of Santa Domingo de Silos (Globe Classics). This double-CD set was a surprise hit in its native Spain.

This is Me Randy Travis (Warner Music). Ten new songs from a country king.



Backpack

Mountain mania

Ski hills give way to a new breed on the boards

His new and black snowboarders' screams, screeching noises over the tightly packed snow in 13-year-old Jay Magin's memory are still positive about Calgary's Canada Olympic Park. Call it happy Gore-Tex pants, a gaily glitzy jacket and a weather jacket. Magin means there is no slushy "halfpipe," a 100-in-long, groomed snow run that lets kids toboggan track. With both his boots strapped onto his skis across the fitter and section of the pipe, pathfinder so leads up the curve, flying over the edge, turning as needed as back down. This is lively snowboarding—a fresh sport that has captured hearts of young skiers. "I like it a lot," cries a 12-year-old student, "You do more snow tricks on a board." You also make more mistakes. On hills across North America, snowboarders are coming at old-style skiers from unpredictable directions—and touching off predictable conflicts.

Think of it as a winter equivalent of commuters versus pedestrians—a clash of cultures, styles and preferences. What annoys many others stems from inherent differences between the two sports—the boarders tend to crisscross the lake from coast to coast. Thus, they're the hip-hop faction and beachie attitude—at least among the wilder bunch. "People see snowboarding is definitely a youth movement," says Barchini Van Los. "I see old and snowboard instructors at Olympic Park. They can go up and slide around a ski hill and instantly score a hell of a lot of credibility." Galapina John Helton, 23, a devoted skier, says snowboarders "pretty much" and they have this in common: "They're all looking for opportunities to be the best. They have all these fancy tricks." Helton adds, "The best"

Resort operators have been struggling to cope with the phenomenon since snowboarders first hit the slopes in the mid 1980s. In Ontario, at least three resorts have banned snowboarders entirely, while a handful of others have built pipes and other pump-up terrain that boarders favor. More recently, the sport has been making waves on the West Coast. British Columbia's Whistler Mountain, where snowboarders account for about eight per cent of the 600,000 lift tickets sold annually, announced a "zero tolerance" policy to eliminate the



less, snowboarding is just a day after two dozen collisions on the hill. "This is only a small percentage of snowboarders," says David Perry, Whistler's racing instructor. "They're very proficient, but they're not doing with other people."



Ferry is quick to add that Whidbey is only seeing out the discipline boarders, while encouraging the rest to ride safely. Boaters, of course, are keen to pick up potential revenue—boarding is growing rapidly, while the tourism market has been the toughest since the recession, says Peter Williams, director at the Greater Victoria Tourism Policy and Research at British Columbia's Simon Fraser University, says that boarders account for about 17 per cent of desirable equipment sales, and the number is expected to hit 30 per cent within five years.

likely to come from an older market. At Alberta's Lake Louise resort, where about five per cent of ticket sales are to snowboarders, deputy area manager John Shea says he has noticed increasing numbers of middle-aged boarders. "That's exciting," says Shea. "Obviously, we're at the business of selling lift tickets and we feel snowboarding's here to stay." The older snowboarders may also help offset the buoyant sales of short-boarder enthusiasts. "Take most new activities," says Williams, "it starts with the explorers, those who don't fit into the traditional mould. But as it evolves into an activity that's more central to mainstream thinking, it will become more accepted."

to be, mostly snowboarders with a unique identity. They have their own language, of tough terms often derived from, at Camp O'Grippe Park, "half" and "stars" mean staying out, "alley-oop" is a 180-degree turn off a jump, a "100F" is three complete turns. "One day here can do it," says Hight, "but that's a myth." There are terms, too, to describe manly maneuvers done in underwear like "body," "tuckin'" and "tuckin' this." And the snowboarders have their own dress code—no pricey arc at that. Magpie sports \$200 pants, a \$150 jacket, \$150 boots, and an Austrian-made, 350-cc. Anzani snowboard that cost about \$800.

Snowboarders are most common at small local resorts where folks congregate—accounting for 30 per cent of the revenue at Olympic Park. The public affairs co-ordinator, Chris Tuff, concedes that she is scared of urban boarders when the kids at bigger resorts "blow boarders are fearless on rugged slopes," she says. "Some of them keep at it you from a bump. Having a 'bull-pup' makes the difference for everyone." Not everyone, of course, is delighted with the latest winter sport. But as more and more snowboarders job and jump their way across Canadian slopes, others worry as well as get used to them.

MARY NEMETH with JOHN MORSE in *Colony*

PEOPLE



That home-town feeling

Cousins model rules Rosenberg likes to take a lot of home with her when she works the racetrack. Last week in Paris, as she studied the fall edition of some of the top horse books, she took along Chelsy, Martini, and a few other "pocket" hounds—her top hounds, Mumby, a collie from Calgary to which she's on a strict hush, and Rosenberg says she is already at home in the industry world and has had few problems adjusting to life as a top reader. "It just became a lifestyle for me because I started as young," she says, indeed—at 23—Rosenberg is already a veteran of the racetrack. Agent Kelle Street, whose past finds include supervised Trishie Hurler, discovered her at a Sears department store in Calgary when she was a mere 15 years old. "I'd long gone off [my parent]" says Rosenberg. "Then, I really took forward in moving back to Calgary."

Annenberg: 'I'll keep going till I get bored'

The gory details

William Boyd is rewarded for the depth of research he puts into his novels. For his 1999 book, *A Good Man in Africa* (a movie based on it is to be released this spring, starring Sean Connery), Boyd drew on his experiences growing up in the west African country of Ghana. And for *Discipline*



Shields (1960), the London-based author, delved into anthropology to depict a heroine studying chimpanzees. His recently released sci-fi novel, *The Blue Americans*, about the ambitions and loves of late-20th-century surgery, serves as his "living laboratory" to find out what kind of ego was operating here—no pun intended," said Boyd. But researching the finer points of surgery led to his curiosity. When a surgeon friend invited him to an operation, he declined. "I thought I would feel—sort of, 'Oh, that, there goes the writer,'" Boyd recalled. Still, he has craved still. *The Blue Americans* is a believable account of a surgeon's work. The second "I did a lot of reading."

David Carlson—within Nests



Grin and bear it

For 25 years, he was a regular feature in *Maclean's*, with four cover appearances. And after leaving the magazine, Jasper the Bear still continued success: in 1987, he became a syndicated feature in the weekend comic sections of newspapers across Canada, and then moved on to appear in two books. In fact, a statue of Jasper still stands guard over the park in Alberta in which he resided. Now, 25 years after his death, the bear has finally been honored for his work. Earlier this month, the Toronto Carleton Place Society presented Stepien, B.S. with its first lifetime achievement award—a plaque: "In the name of giving a little recognition," said Stepien. "Political cartoonists are usually more notorious than *Jerry Anglin*. This was my most memorable cartoon," said Stepien. "I did it in 1945. It was the first time I signed the honor." Just as is terrific guy," he said. "And Jasper is such a wonderful character."

Suspensions with Japan 'recipients'



Reggae roots

Tony's Madlings says her life is pretty exciting these days. And with good reason: last month, she picked up her Canadian Reggae Music Award—as top female vocalist and another for her single Love and Affirmation. This week, Madlings, 35, will attend the Jama Awards in Toronto, where the hit song is also nominated for best reggae recording. The Toronto-borne singer says that because she comes from a musical family, she takes success in stride. Her father and manager, Tony Madl, who has been instrumental in promoting reggae in Canada, recently received the Peter Tosh Memorial Award for his contribution to the genre. “I grew up seeing my dad’s name on the paper,” says Tony, “so I can take in some of the attention.” That isn’t all of it. Madlings admits that when she hears one of her



Adaptive: a maximal family

ART

SNOW STORM

A sprawling retrospective spotlights a prolific creator



The challenge is to condense more than 40 years of a deeply thinking, astonishingly versatile artist's career into a message that will fit on a T-shirt. The artist, Toronto's Michael Snow, is a renowned 60-year-old painter, sculptor, photographer, holographer, experimental filmmaker and poet laureate. Last week in his home city, the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) and The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery launched *The Michael Snow Project*, a sprawling tribute that includes three visual art exhibitions as well as numerous screenings, concerts and lectures. The people flocking to the show wanted a T-shirt that would leap off gallery gift shop shelves. They chose an excerpt from a lovely manifesto that Snow wrote in 1961, "I raise up the rules of a game, then I attempt to play it," the white lettering on the black T-shirt proclaiming, "I change the rules."

The perception of art as a game—a serious game with creatively evolving rules—has characterized Snow's work for more than four decades. The artist has spent much of his career collecting an inquiry into the way people process sensory information. But he has done so in an often very playful way. Sometimes, only a dedicated few are willing to play along with him. His improvisatory jazz performances on piano and trumpet appear to us small, decidedly contrapuntal to the prevailing. And while experimental film-makers at home and abroad regard several of his works as masterpieces, mass audiences attend movies, not cinematic studies of time, light and motion.

But some of his public art commissions are harder to miss. Toronto's most instantly identifiable landmark, since 1979, millions of Eaton Centre shoppers have passed by at Nightlight, his realistic-looking flock of geese on the wing. And since 1989, sports fans have reconquered the stadium, his graphic, preexisting characters on the north wall of Sky Dome. These public commissions are noteworthy in a place that has the rest of its art, they offer a stunning invitation to look deeper beneath the surface, they make us conscious on the difference between realism and representation.

The Michael Snow Project, which runs until June 5, provides an unparalleled opportunity to appreciate Snow's protean creativity. In addition to screening all the artist's films, the AGO is presenting two exhibitions of his visual art. Containing 179 pieces, one AGO show surveys Snow's art between 1961 and 1967. The other, 30-work exhibit concentrates on the search for order in the 1960s and 1970s, when he was most intensely concerned with perception. A third, 80-pieces show of *The Power Plant* presents works created between 1970 and 1980. The retrospective also includes lectures by painter Joanne Tait, filmmaker Adam Elgort and several other creators for whom Snow's work has been an inspiration.

The three exhibitions demonstrate that Snow is fascinated with the way the artist perceives the world around him. "A large part of modern art is devoted towards the act of seeing, not in a sense of the artist who has been raised recently and practically and successfully concerned with that issue," says critic Robert Falkner, who has been following Snow's career since the 1970s. "He is someone who is trying to show his way through what seeing is all about." Snow has often cited a personal reason for his deep interest in the subject:

He was a child when his father, a civil engineer, lost one eye when he was injured in an explosion. As a result of that accident, his father gradually went blind in the other eye as well.

Raised in Toronto's prosperous Rosedale district, Snow graduated from the Ontario College of Art in 1952 and soon began showing his drawings and paintings at local galleries. He supported himself with odd-time odd work and by playing parties at the cottage with a just group. Snow met Joyce Wieland, who would also go on to become a leading Canadian artist, and the two married in 1956 (they divorced 25 years later, and Snow is now married to art critic Peggy Cole, with whom he has a 13-year-old son). In many of his early paintings and drawings, he depicted human figures with a whimsical innocence that recalls the work of Paul Gauguin. By the late 1950s, he was producing numerous abstract works.

In the early 1960s, a bold shift of perspective completely redefined Snow's art—and transformed him from a respected young talent into one of Canada's most significant artists. Remaining in the subject of the human form, he produced a cut-out of a standing female figure, seen from the side. For seven years, the iconic silhouette of the *Walking Woman* remained the basis of all his visual art. He painted her, sculpted her, attended her, dressed her, edited her and moved her about with countless variations. "About the only thing that connects all my stuff," Snow said in an interview last week, "is that I'm interested in variation systems—that is, setting up a theme and making a sequence of variations out of it."

Snow and Wieland moved to New York City in 1962, where he became increasingly involved in jazz perfor-

mance and film-making. His most famous film, *Wavelength*, was completed in 1966, and his many of his late-1960s sculptures, it makes the point that art is often a means of knowing and knowing reality. "Any photograph is a cropping of something," Snow says. *Wavelength* opens with a wide-angle shot taken from a low angle, then slowly—very slowly—begins to zoom in on a photograph of waves on the far wall. People come and go in the space, but the 45-minute film's real subject is the relentless zooming of the camera. In the end, the waves on the wall photograph fill the entire frame.

After moving back to Toronto in 1972, Snow continued to explore how art selectively renders reality. In the mid-1980s he created several pieces that use holography to create an eerie illusion of three-dimensional objects. In *On/Off/On/Off*, a 1985 work that is part of the *Power Plant* exhibit, features ghostly holographic faces that appear to press up against the real glass window of a real wooden door. "I'm not deluding," says Snow. "There are a lot of things that ought to be changed in the world, but I'm just trying to make an experience that has a certain field of strength. It doesn't necessarily involve making your own interpretation of other things. I just want you to estimate what's in front of you."

In person, Snow is courteous and unassuming, with a life-affirming laugh. While describing some aspect of his work, he sometimes intersperses such comments as "Jeez, it's hard to talk about these things." During the past two years, preparations for *The Michael Snow Project* have taken up most of his time. He has been involved in the production of his various catalogues and a new book-length retrospective of his collected writings. While going through his archival material, he came across several unexposed *Walking Woman* films that he really liked that he will probably save as something completely different when the people surrounding him retrospective releases. In a 1982 newspaper article, Falkner wrote that Snow "never stands still long enough to be scotch-taped. Whenever you believe you know all he has to say, he quickly changes the conversation." True that, true now Snow said.

FAMILIA YOUNG

Napoleonic ambition

There is something strangely Napoleonic about the way Timothy Williams and Andrew Seaton have their \$4.5-million production, *Napoleon*, at Toronto's Elgin Theatre. And like the diminutive Canadian military officer who went on to conquer Europe, the two have made their grab for money while still in their 30s. Both have vaulted out of relative obscurity. Seaton, 38, was an unemployed actor. Williams, 27, was a former record-store clerk. Napoleon is the first show they have ever written. And yet it's a success in Toronto and in its scheduled London run next fall—it could carry them to the kind of fame and fortune that only Andrew Lloyd Webber (*Cats*, *Phantom of the Opera*) and Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil (*Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon*) have achieved.

The group will be tough. *Napoleon* is entering one of the most competitive big-budget musical markets anywhere: *Phantom*, *Miss Saigon*, *Grease* for Fox and *Shogun* that are currently enjoying successful runs in Toronto, now the third largest theatre centre in the English-speaking world after London and New York. But the pop's success as a major musical capital has depended heavily on foreign talent: although *Phantom* and *Miss Saigon* are performed largely by Canadians, both shows were created elsewhere. And the current Canadian productions of *Grease* for Fox and *Shogun* were written by Americans and involve American choreographers and performers. But *Napoleon* is different. Except for its two lead actors, the three-hour show is entirely Canadian—a landmark production that could take this country to new heights as a player in the international musical scene.

Marlene Smith, who is co-producing the show with Williams, Seaton and her partner, Ernie Rubenstein, believes that *Napoleon* has come along at just the right moment. "People want something new, claims the 35-year-old producer. "They're saying, 'God, do we have to see one more Andrew Lloyd Webber show?' I think our

Two unknowns set out to conquer the musical stage

timing is exactly right." But some observers have raised a warning note, pointing out that the ability of Toronto, the surrounding region, and neighbouring American cities to fill the city's large theatres is finite; at some point, there may simply not be enough audience to go around. David Mirvish, a co-producer of *Miss Saigon* and co-owner of the Princess of Wales Theatre, suggests that a new production like *Napoleon* may be a mixed blessing. "Yes, it creates more seats and spurs attraction for the city," he says. "But will it be one show too many? Nobody knows the answer to that question. But we're going to find out."

As opening night approached, such mixed emotions swirled far from the minds of Williams and Seaton as they put in 16-hour days smoothing the rough patches in *Napoleon*. For both, the last days represent the culmination of an astounding 12 years of work. They first met in teenage students at Victoria's St. Michael's University School in the early 1980s. Seaton had won the lead in a film being made at the school, while Williams, an aspiring pianist and composer, had been asked to contribute to the score. The two discovered they could write songs to perform and soon dreamed of creating a musical. "The big shows of the day were *Evita* and



Jesus Christ Superstar," the boyishly handsome Seaton recalls. Looking for a similar type of subject, they considered *Ethiopia* 1, Julius Caesar and Napoleon. "It was Napoleon that kept us at it," Seaton says. "We chose him because of his great love affair with Josephine, and because he was a true hero—someone who starts off as flawed but eventually goes that he winds up going too far."

By the summer of 1992, Williams and Seaton had written enough material to make a 15-minute demonstration tape. But then, the two friends separated to pursue their careers. Williams moved to Toronto to play the lead in the popular CBC TV series *The Edmontons*. James Williams, after dropping out of pre-med studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., returned to his native England, hoping to launch a composing career in film and television. He took work as a musician for BBC radio, spending his first time trying to break in to the music business. But after the years of rejection, the tall, fresh-faced youngster felt he was at a dead end. "Living on a £100 wage in London, at a crowded basement flat, is pretty miserable," he says. Thus, one day he listened to the old *Napoleon* tape he had made with Seaton and found his confidence revived. He wrote a letter to his friend suggesting they go back to work on the musical.

But Williams had not kept in touch with Seaton and was unsure where he was living. He sent the letter to Seaton's parents in Victoria, but, not trusting the complete address, he dropped a picture of the house on the envelope. And so the fate of the *Napoleon* project, which would involve millions of dollars and scores of people, rested on the hope that some letter carrier would take the trouble to match the drawing with the right house.

Convinced that Williams was the letter was delivered, and eventually forwarded to Seaton in Los Angeles. It could hardly have reached him at a better time. Exhausted after six months of *The Edmontons*, he had been trying unsuccessfully to find work in the United States. He had moved with his new energy into *Napoleon*, enhancing song and story ideas with Williams by transatlantic mail. It was an extraordinary way to write a musical, but with the help of friends

city's Elgin and Winter Garden theatres. At first Smith, too, turned down Williams and Seaton. She had just seen—and intensely disliked—the Shaw Festival's 1989 adaptation of Tolstoy's *War and Peace*. The last thing she wanted to look at was another European war epic. But "the boys," as the extremely polite and disarmingly calm Williams and Seaton were perceived, "about an weeks later," recalls the producer, "they stuck their heads around the corner of my office and said, 'Are you over *War and Peace* yet?'" Charmed, Smith invited them in. Williams and Seaton assured her that their show dealt in its mythic *Napoleon*'s romance with Josephine, the older woman whom he married and then divorced because she was unable to provide him with heirs, as well as his military adventures. Inspired by the dramatic focus and captured by the show's success, Smith agreed to back the project. It is the fall of 1994, Williams moved in Toronto, and he and Seaton settled into working on *Napoleon* full time.

At first, Smith found it difficult to attract investors to a musical by two unknowns. "People would say to me, 'Lloyd Webber's putting two writers who don't even have a writing credit on their resumes. Are you crazy?'" And even after the money started to trickle in, Smith and *Napoleon*'s director, Bradford Benson (winner John Wood, faced the daunting task of creating a production from scratch. Unlike such far-advanced projects as *Phantom* and *Miss Saigon*, *Napoleon* is basically a complete new ground. Smith and her team have had to create everything from the show's logo (the young Napoleon's face and bold signature) to its set designs (one scene depicts Napoleon and his army crossing the Alps in the 28th century for the 30th-century war).

Completed with Williams' \$12 million start-up costs, *Napoleon*'s \$4.5-million budget is modest. But Seaton does not consider the financial limitations a drawback. Comments the writer: "Right from Day 1 we said, 'Let's write this thing so it can be performed in a shed.'" Napoleon calls for few of the high-tech stage effects that made *Miss Saigon* so expensive. Instead, the available money has been used to hire the best talent that could be found: David Collier, who orchestrated all of Lloyd Webber's hit musicals, created the score for *Napoleon*'s 28 numbers. And to lead solo, the producers have found an electrifying young French performer, Jerome Pradon, who played the American soldier Chris in the London version of *Miss Saigon*. British stage and television actor Alec Mount played Josephine.

When the first scenes onstage for the opening, enormous hopes and expectations will be riding on its critics. In the audience will be scores of artists and investors, as well as hundreds of well-wishers and friends. But one will be watching with quiet the fate for Williams and Seaton, who will doubtless wonder if they were about to conquer the world—or meet their Waterloo.

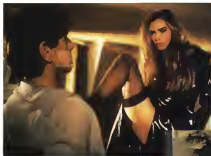


Clockwise, from top, Mount and Pradon, creators Williams and Seaton; scene from the perspective production of *Napoleon*; a landmark show that could take Canada to new heights as a player in the international theatre scene

and an investment of their own savings, the two managed to assemble a new, 45-minute demonstration tape. Seaton says, however, that when they sent it to producers, "a lot of them didn't even bother to turn it in."

Enter Markster Smith, a member of a bar who had been the Toronto co-producer of *Cats* and the manager, and a short time later, all the

Muse, model or slave



In *Peter Moon*, a young French woman is the love slave of an American writer twice her age. In *Senna*, a trio of happily married women serve as love models for a painter in the wilds of Australia. And in *The Secret of Green Pappas*, a Vietnamese servant girl wins the heart of a handsome composer by cooking, sewing and dancing for him in unobtrusive silence. Three movies from abroad about women who serve male artists at the risk of abuse, model or slave in the current climate of sexual correctness, each film boasts hopelessly outrageous but all three have redoubtable qualities that defy simple moral equations. A craggy, natural intelligence licks behind the bad taste and cruel excess of *Peter Moon*. The unbridled evil of *Senna* is wrapped in a delectable comic parable of sexual liberation. And *The Secret of Green Pappas*'s Buddhist meditation on a do-nothing life has a braided beauty that transcends its race separatist plot.

Bigger Moon comes from the playfully perverse imagination of filmmaker Ryszard Polanski, who directed such Hollywood classics as *Chatterbox* and *Rosemary's Baby*, and lives in Paris since firing a 1978 U.S. conviction for statutory rape. His latest movie is a shapely tale of two couples. A straitlaced young Englishman

named Nigel (Olafsh Groot) and his wife, Fiona (Kerstin Scott-Thomson), have embarked on a literary cruise to the Orient, hoping to breathe some life into their children's stage plays. On board, they meet a parraphic American writer named Oscar (Peter Coyote) and his platinum young wife, Mimi (played by Polanski's own wife, Emmanuelle Bégin). Oscar reveals that with the sage of his prostitute but

destructive romance with Mimi. Unfolding as flashbacks, his story turns into a satirical memoir of andromedachism. Against his better judgment, Nigel keeps coming back for fresh insights, until Oscar offers to set him up with Mimi if he leaves the whole story. Such trifling and applied, Nigel, a

poached out with an Italian actress, lets his inner voyeur run out over his inner pride. Oscar preys on a similar dilemma, as the viewer—whenever you think you are watching a bad play, it starts to turn into a good job. Oscar's narrative, for instance, is ludicrously overwritten, but then you re-

member that his character is a failed writer.

Polanski keeps having the last laugh. And in the narrative pitches and rolls between parody and melodrama, the director never loses his bearings. Guiding every angle of his camera with style, he makes it so unremarkable and unremarkable, Mimi's Coyote, devoting his role with naive-chicous relish, is superb, especially in his scenes with Groot, who is precise as the eternally doleful Nigel. Senna features Groot in a smaller role—as Anthony, a glibly devious who tries to persuade an artist to withdraw a picture of a naked woman on the cruise from a traveling exhibition. Set in the 1930s, the story is fictional, then the painter, Australia's Norman Lindsay, and the painting, *The Green-Faced Venus*, are real. The controversy that erupted around Lindsay, who died in 1969 at the age of 90, becomes the background for a sensual, halfhearted tale about sex and censorship.

The deceptions travel to Lindsay's

Coyote and Sengner (left), scenes from *Senna*, current release



country estate in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney with his dramatic wife, Estella (Jane Fingersh). They were planning a brief stay, but a train derailment leaves them stranded in the artist's bohemian refuge. Lindsay (Ben Neill) has just started painting a canvas based on the legend of the Sirens, who lured sailors to their deaths. His three unattached models spent much of their time in the nude, even when not posing. Both the director and his wife are taken aback. But while Anthony desperately tries to shield himself from inquiry, Estella slowly succumbs to the magical influence, until she starts to behave like a Siren herself.

Written and directed by Australia's John Duigan (*The Manly Man*), *Senna* is witty, glibly erotic, Fitzgerald (Olafsh

Think about crossing the line.



Senna creates an artfully shaded portrait of a man discovering her sensuality while Coyote in *The Romance of the Shipwreck* as a lesbian star who played the journalist in *The Romance of the Shipwreck*. The women playing the models include *Senna* director's own wife, Lindsay (Ben Neill) has just started painting a canvas based on the legend of the Sirens, who lured sailors to their deaths. His three unattached models spent much of their time in the nude, even when not posing. Both the director and his wife are taken aback. But while Anthony desperately tries to shield himself from inquiry, Estella slowly succumbs to the magical influence, until she starts to behave like a Siren herself.

And, posing as Ulysses, a rugged—and inevitably male—made previous equal-opportunity objectification.

But the film goes beyond soft-core porn. Resurrecting a debate over art and censorship that is still relevant, *Senna* leaves a lasting impression in erotic freedom. After the sexual Gothic overkill of his previous movie, the American cast of *The Manly Man*, Duigan conveys the clash of race and continents as one of the strongest Australian wilderness complete with a large scale that swishes through several scenes, turns out to be benign. *Senna* offers a pre-Adams world of temptation without repression, an Eden of sensuality and sexual-chic without sexual sin. It may not be great art, but it's great fun.

The *Secret of Green Pappas* is devoted to sensuality in its own way although the theme is not explicitly sexual. An Oscar nominee, far less bawdy-language film, Polanski explores the delicate rituals of a servant girl in a Vietnamese household. Set at

Sengner between 1961 and 1964, it takes place in a lush, interior world, a Vietnam far removed from the war portrayed in Oliver Stone's *Platoon* and *Heaven and Earth*. The only violence in Polanski is the crash of a vase falling to the floor, or the stilet of a woman's stilet to a wall.



Tran, capturing the exquisite out of the ordinary

The story, such as it is, focuses on Mui (Lu Man Sun), a third 30-year-old girl from the provinces who becomes a servant in a merchant's house. Tethered to the domestic graces in an old servant woman, Mui learns to sail serenely through her duties, immune to punishing children and lecherly neighbors. She is a child in a matriarchal world—the

master of the house, who whisks away his time consuming a late. Just gets up and leaves one day, never to return. Later in the film, as a lovely 20-year-old (Tran Hu Yen Khe), Mui is sent to work for a wealthy young composer. He is a French-educated Vietnamese who plays Chopin and Debussy

in the piano while his supercilious, high-browed friends like about, vying for attention. Although Mui and her master never speak, romance is subtly conveyed from the tension of their silent glances.

On her side, Polanski is the tale of a quiet, patient girl who finds true love by making a career of it. But the movie is about women, not men, and the images are enchanting: a lizard crawling from a vase, molly up coming from a peepers' view, a boy's fingertip crushing with its trapped in conflict. There are a half-dozen sequences of Mui simply watching her hands in an empty bowl. She incarnates the Buddhist idea of doing everything with love.

And so does the film's Vietnamese-born French director, Tran Anh Hung, who shot the film entirely on a set in Paris. Wong the camera Mui's watercolor brush, Tran captures the exquisite out of the ordinary, and fills the cinematic frame of a great filmmaker he transports the viewer to another world.

IRVIN D. JOHNSON

The aboriginal beat

I second a blues night like any other in smoky room, beer in abundance and a pecked dancer floor. But the event last month sponsored by the Toronto Blues Society, had a unique twist. Third Best Be Blues, it was a showcase at U.S. and Canadian-American performance of all with a penchant for the classic 12-bar blues. The acts appeared before the mostly native crowd of more than 800, including headliner Marry Porter, one of native music's rising stars. A

that, as with Sweet Grass, his biggest sellers are recordings by traditional powwow groups like the White Fish Bay Singers.

But at First Nations/Wowday, the emphasis is on the contemporary sounds of Marry Porter, Seventh Fire and Lawrence Martin, a country artist who sings in Cree and English and whose debut album, the just-released *Wagtails in Lawrence Martin*, was recorded mostly in Nashville. "The tunes are really changing," says Martin, 38, a co-owner of the



Native music is coming on strong

Marshall's "Native artists, better production" label, mayor of Sioux Lookout and executive director of Winnipeg's Cree multimedia, an Aboriginal network with radio, television and newspaper holdings in Northern Ontario.

"Native music has taken big strides. There's more artists, better production and even a record from overseas." Aboriginal music has its own celebrations now complete with major-label record deals and voices on black/white. The top-selling Quebec duo Kaduana, the first native stars of the 1990s, got their U.S. launch next month with the release there of their second album, *Dawn*, on Sony Music's Tri-Star label. Sales of

Dawn and the group's self-titled debut soon to hit \$50,000 in Canada. Meanwhile, DM Music Canada has high hopes for Aglukto. Last year the label issued a Christmas album by the Inuit singer and is now re-releasing Aglukto's *Arctic River*, an album that sold more than 13,000 copies independently. Says DM president Diane Cameron: "The whole world music movement has made people more curious about music from other cultures, including aboriginal people."

The growth of native music mirrors the success of prairie recording. Norel Morrison in the 1970s and such artists as Joan as Highway and Thomas King in the 1980s and 1990s. According to Tanya Bomberry, a talent agent from the Six Nations reserve near Brantford, Ont., who has worked with Highway and now represents musicians including Porter, it was inevitable that native artists would come to the fore. Bomberry, who largely developed the new aboriginal category for the Jaws, adds that a major challenge is deciding what constitutes indigenous style. "Aboriginal music is new so hard," she says, "but it's difficult to define." Indeed, one of this year's nominees, Wowday's Saucy Red Sky, is a non-native singer who qualifies because she performs a prayer song composed by an Indian.

Ultimately, it comes down to whether or not the music reflects a native experience. Says Aglukto, who looks at the native issue of teenage suicide on the title song of *Arctic River*: "I sing about what I see around me. What makes my music aboriginal is that I see." For Martin, singing in his native Cree is as important as singing about cultural values—something he does on *Blues*, a song with tribal drumming that co-opters heavy bass for young people. Slogging from Nashville, where he is recording a new album, the soft-spoken father of eight says he is trying to express his native perspective in all of his work. "We have to recognize the link to our way to their culture," Martin insists. "That's very important."

Porter, who lives with his family on Six Nations, contrasts that music—even the blues—is the perfect way for native people to pass on their heritage. "There is no end history," says Porter. "We are born to their legends or our stories. The blues seemed a natural vehicle because it's the music of oppressed people." He adds "I like to say that I'm a red man singing the black man's blues in a white man's world." But these music have an other hand. And the emergence of aboriginal performers has more to do with the fact that native people are finding their voices—and making powerful songs with them.

NICHOLAS JENNINGS

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The power to be your best.



A fast bite of the Big Apple

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

A 10:00 a.m. one day last week, a 22-year-old Brooklyn woman, tentatively identified as *Senta Grant*, 22, was shot once in the head inside her East 34th Street basement apartment in East Flatbush. No sign of forced entry. At 4 p.m., Stan Doty, 32, was found shot once in the head in his basement apartment at 2641 Cullen Ave. in the Bronx. Circumstances unknown.

These are the homicides by gunshot reported by city police during the 24-hour period. Total in 1994 so far: 394. Welcome to a weekend in New York.

On the sidewalk outside Bloomingdale's department store, there is the first known incident of a tourist almost trampled to death by a blind man. Tourists of Manhattan are known for their take-no-prisoners pedestrian style, mowing over everything in their path. Many in their destination, so you know why there's a hurry.

But this is ridiculous. Head down, nose tapping, the blind man was reaching top speed, his scotch-groggily barely able to keep up with his cane. Only at the last moment did this mortal leap to safety. It was a narrow escape. Welcome to New York.

There is the amazing number of relatives Boris has acquired. Boris is the name we give to the extremely large waiter in the Kennedy Tux Shops wearing his red tunic with white. Boris must be paid on a time-consuming study basis, attempting to move patrons around out of their chairs on 20-minute shifts.

"Enjoy," he grants as he slips down each dish, each glass of wine. It is apparently the extent of his vocabulary. No one could enjoy with Boris and his built-in hovering overhead. New York waiters are always in a hurry.

At Benson's exclusive restaurant, a chap looking for a blazer watches as some auto-abandon on the floor manager tumbles in a shooting match with one at the male clerk. Shooting matches are more important, apparently, than customer service. Clerk in New York are never in a hurry.

The urgency is found in the desire. A novel of *Gus and Zola* with Nathan Detroit



and Big John and Big Masterman and Harry the Blame and Nicely-Nicely Johnson brings the New York of Damon Runyon to life with all the classic haunts and greyness of their character and wit, their egomaniacs still alive today on Wall Street.

Admitted, 14 years into her engagement with crisp game ingredients Nathan Detroit, is still trying to get him to the altar. It's a pleasant scene.

At the Towers on the Green, in the middle of Central Park, the light bulbs in the trees sparkle in the winter night, the hedges carved into the shape of rousers and elephants. A relative of Boris orders that if you just want a drink and no need you have to keep your coat on. Yes, sir.

There is a sad scene at the New Four Seasons Hotel in its choice location just off Madison Avenue, as one whose opening was choreographed by Toronto's television Pap

in Johns, who chief Frank, Argyle 4. Take your rag back to Ravello Village.

At *End of the Spider Woman*, Jonathan Vanover's Jeff Wylde and the agent Chris Brown, immediately in their trademark suspenders arrive late and climb over the seats. At intermission, they return late and climb over the seats. After closing curtains, the cast makes a plea for A20 contributions and stand at the exits with expectant baskets. Whenever happened in lower houses? Guess?

New York is a hurry it's alive and vibrant. The importance is too much for outsiders, used to a slower pace accustomed to a different time scale. The blood can't be heated in this pace first quickly.

Argyle who tries to stroll, rather than stride, is in danger of being run down, possibly by a blind man. Three days in long enough.

At the Park Lane Hotel, there is a lovely dining room on the mezzanine floor overlooking Central Park and the jugglers and the horses trotting before the candelabra through the bare trees. But a crisis of Boris—in a large family—in a half-filled room is eager to bully.

One suddenly remembers apartment in the penthouse resides Lena Heilmann. This is one of her hotels and she is now out of the vicarage. Her personality has permeated this room. The bad.

The tabloids are all excited on the front pages over the last Frank Sinatra, from Hoboken, N.J., across the Hudson, has flunked on stage while in Richmond, Va. Come on now Frank is 76. What's he doing on a stage? He sings "New York, New York," if you can make it at there, you can make it anywhere." That's why they're concerned. If Frank is being, who chief Frank, Argyle 4. Take your rag back to Ravello Village.

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